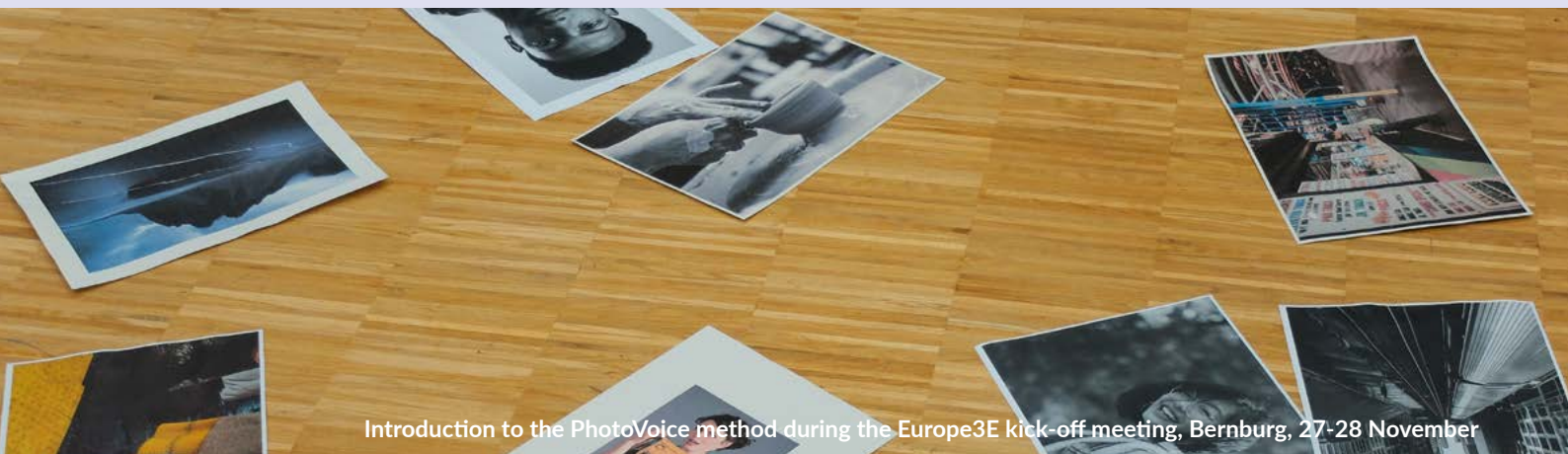




**ANNUAL REPORT 2019**

PESSAC BUDGET YOUNG VOICES SWEDEN ACTION GENDER  
PLANNING MOBILITY EXCHANGE AUSTRIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS  
CULTURAL CITIZENS POLICIES INVOLVED LOBBYING ADVOCACY BORDEAUX DEMOCRATIC  
MEMBERSHIP PARTNERSHIP STAKEHOLDERS DISSEMINATION RECOMMENDATIONS DECISION MAKERS  
DEVELOP ANNUAL EVENT H2020 GENDER-SENSITIVITY UNDERREPRESENTED GREECE  
PORTUGAL EUROPEAN UNION PROMISE DISCUSS SHARING METHODS  
EXPERIENCE ACTIVITIES YES TO VOLUNTEERING GRONINGEN DIVERSITY  
PARLIAMENT KINDERSTADT SOCIAL EUROPE3E OPPORTUNITIES  
EVENTS PROMISE PARTNERS ERASMUS PARTICIPANTS  
BRUSSELS NETWORK YOUNG PEOPLE SOCIAL YOUTH WORK  
PARTICIPATION  
PROJECTS YES FORUM EUROPE  
YOUTH MEETINGS OPPORTUNITY MEMBERS POLICY  
PRACTITIONERS DIVE COUNTRIES TRAINING RESULTS STRASBOURG  
SIMULATIONS GENDER FUN YOUNG SUPPORT SOCIETY  
INSTITUTIONS PROJECTS DIVERSE WORKSHOP YOUNGSTERS EVS  
NETWORK TRANSNATIONAL SECRETARIAT CREATE TOGETHER ENGAGEMENT  
RESEARCH FRANCE FUTURE CONFERENCE SIMULATION NETHERLANDS INITIATIVES PUBLICATION  
RECOGNITION ACCESSIBLE POTENTIAL AVAILABLE POLICY STUTTGART INCLUSIVE MANCHESTER  
KNOWLEDGE EXPERTISE DIVERSITY INCLUSION ATHENS SIEM POSITIVE BERNBURG  
COLOGNE ESTONIA EU COMMISSION SUPPORT VIENNA PITEA IMPACT EEIG CHANGE  
POLICY BRIEF TRUST ITALY MEMBERS IDEAS MEPS EU PARLIAMENT



Introduction to the PhotoVoice method during the Europe3E kick-off meeting, Bernburg, 27-28 November

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Achievements 2019	7
Projects & Activities	8
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Our Network	30



A photograph of two young students in a modern, brightly lit room with large windows and yellow shelving. They are hanging large flags. The student on the left is wearing a dark hoodie and a brown beanie, holding a red and yellow flag. The student on the right is wearing a dark hoodie, holding a red flag with a white and blue emblem. A semi-transparent purple banner is overlaid across the middle of the image.

# EDITORIAL

Young students preparing the PROMISE Final Conference in Manchester, 8-9 April

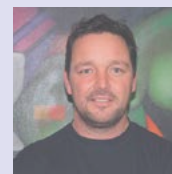
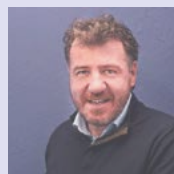
2019 marked a pivotal year in the development of the YES Forum, with many successful project conclusions and the beginning of inspiring new ones. This report features the vital work of YES Forum and its members carried out throughout the last year.

In 2019, YES Forum and its members placed an emphasis on the election of the European Parliament, thus numerous projects and activities of the YES Forum were linked to this topic. As partner of the #ThisTimeImVoting campaign, the YES Forum continually worked towards encouraging young people to vote and participate in this democratic process. To further encourage young people to get involved in society, the YES Forum launched the “Europe through young Eyes: Exchange, Explore, Exhibit” project, building on the experiences of the very successful “YourEP” project. The title emphasises the unique approach applied in the project. By using the participatory research photovoice we will connect the young people and enable them to voice their understanding of Europe and the EU. With this highly relevant project topic, it ties in the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027 and its goals engage, connect and empower.

From projects to staff, YES Forum builds on strong foundations, while giving the chance to new ideas and creativity. Indeed, the unique dimension of the network relies on its participatory approach, by always integrating young people in network activities, but also in the work of the secretariat. On the one hand, the engaged volunteers and students bring new ideas and perspective, which allow for a constructive and positive dialogue between all stakeholders, whether they are young people, practitioners or policy makers. On the other hand, young students benefit from a rewarding experience, which will be a valuable asset in their future career. A very good example is the work of one of our students who has performed an in-depth evaluation of the YourEP project, assessing its effects on the involved youth workers at the end of the project. Please read on page 22 the key findings of this student research project which was part of her university studies.

We are very proud of everything we accomplished in 2019. The achievement in the last year was only possible with joint efforts of all members, a committed board and dedicated staff in the secretariat. Thank you very much.

In lights of the positive results of 2019, YES Forum starts the year 2020 with renewed ambitions: exciting quality projects and innovative ideas to make sure young people's voices are heard! More than ever, we need young people and their ideas in creating lasting change in our communities and in Europe.



**Mirco Trielli, Ronald de Haan,  
Maria Petersson, Alexander Hauser, Lilika Trikalinou**  
| YES Forum Board Members



**Annett Wiedermann** | Director of the YES Forum

## YES FORUM OBJECTIVES





## 1. Improve future prospects of vulnerable young people

Coordinator or Co-leader in 5 Erasmus+ projects for young people and practitioners:

- YES to Volunteering!
- Towards more Gender-Sensitivity in Youth Work, with BAG EJSA
- Kinderstadt Goes Europe, with St. Johannis GmbH
- Europe Through Young Eyes: Exchange, Explore, Exhibit
- YES Forum's Network Structural Support

Partner in 3 additional projects for young people and practitioners:

- H2020 PROMISE
- DIVE – Diversity in Pan-European Networks
- Social Inclusion and Engagement in Mobility



## 2. Strengthen professional approaches in youth work across Europe

- 3 Members Events ("Young People and Social Change: Action, Reaction and Inaction" Annual Event, General Assembly, Project Planning Meeting).
- 14 Partner Meetings and Planning Visits related to projects (Preparatory Meetings, Partner exchanges, ...).
- 9 Newsletter Issues, 4 "Special Newsletters", Weekly update of our Website and Social Media.



## 3. Boost participation of marginalized young people in the democratic decision-making process

5 European projects specifically aimed at boosting participation of marginalized young people:

- YES to Volunteering!
- H2020 PROMISE
- DIVE – Diversity in Pan-European Networks
- Social Inclusion and Engagement in Mobility
- Europe Through Young Eyes: Exchange, Explore, Exhibit



## 4. Increasing political and social recognition of youth issues

Contribution to the following Events related to Youth Policies:

- Conference KA2Now "Innovation in Youth Work", 20-21 February, Berlin
- "Have your say in what the EP should do for youth", European Parliament, 7 March, Brussels
- 1st European Steering Group for the European Youth Work Convention, 1-2 October, Bonn
- Edu4Europe "Forum on Education for European Democratic Citizenship", 19-21 November, Strasbourg

Organisation of Events related to Youth Policies, including:

- PROMISE Final conference, 8-9 April, Manchester





# PROJECTS

YES Forum and its members passionately support vulnerable young people. Together, we work to create a culture of participation to make sure young people's voices are heard



## DIVE – Diversity in Pan-European Networks

Established in 2017 and coordinated by JEF Europe, the DIVE project came to an end in 2019. This Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership aimed at tackling the diversity issue in three major European Youth Networks – JEF Europe (Young European Federalists), ESN (Erasmus Students Network) and AEGEE (European Students' Forum), in order to help them reach and involve a more diverse audience.

To reach the project goal, the YES Forum assisted the different partners with its experience and expertise on inclusion and diversity. To this end, 3 tools were developed: an organisational assessment tool, training session outlines as well as a guide of best practices.

These tools will help the 3 networks to make European volunteering more accessible and inclusive!

<https://bit.ly/32JI4Qc>

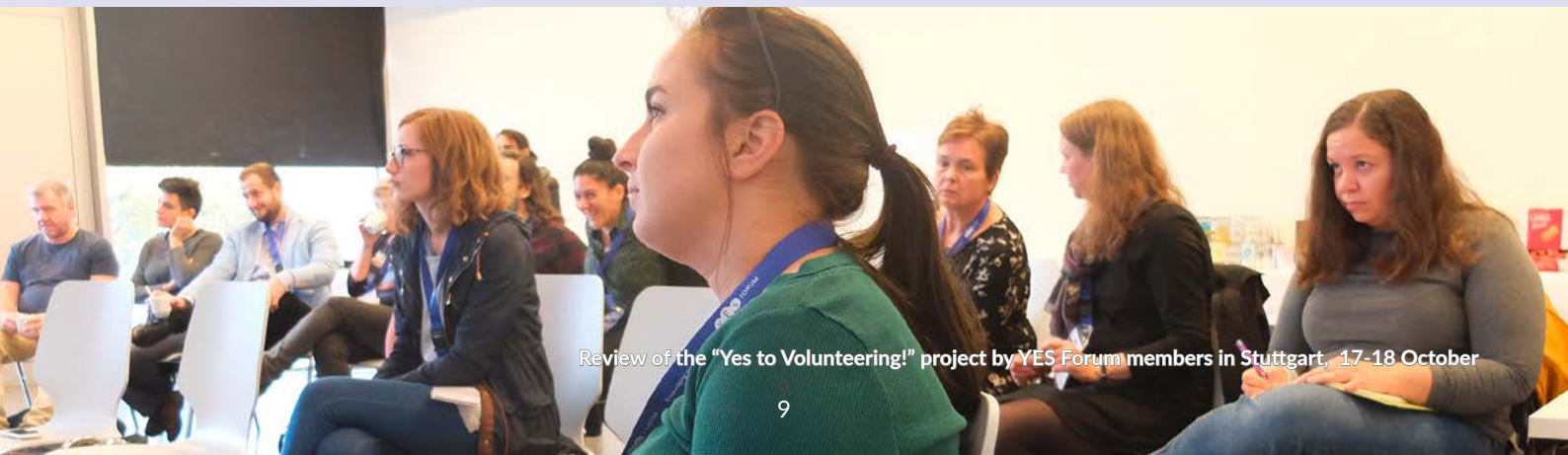
## YES to Volunteering!

Since early 2018 and until mid-2020, this Strategic EVS project is supporting the development of the exchange of international volunteers within the YES Forum network.

Focusing on young people, the project aims at opening volunteering and international mobility to those who are not yet represented in such initiatives.

Additionally, the project has organised several Staff Trainings to ensure the quality of the EVS activities which have been or are to be implemented. That way, all partners that are newcomers in the field of volunteering receive a tailor-made coaching to send and/or host their first volunteers!

<https://bit.ly/2VEOHSn>



Review of the "Yes to Volunteering!" project by YES Forum members in Stuttgart, 17-18 October

## PROJECTS

### Towards more Gender-Sensitivity in Youth Work

Since 2018 and until 2020, YES Forum is working in partnership with BAG EJSA and 5 other organisations on the topic of gender.

The aim is to contribute to the achievement of gender equality in different European countries by increasing the knowledge about the diversity of adolescent life situations and developing methods for an inclusive work with all young people.

During transnational meetings and trainings, social work practitioners working with young people from different European countries have had the opportunity to discuss and reflect on the topic, but also to present and try out good practices from the field.

As we are now entering the final stretch, youngsters from various organisations will exchange their views on “Gender - Family, Education, Work and Wellbeing” during a training in Berlin in March 2020, and actively participate in the creation and finalization of the project outputs.

<https://bit.ly/2TjeH4j>

### SIEM – Social Inclusion and Engagement in Mobility

During two years (2019-2021), the YES Forum will collaborate with the Erasmus Student Network and partner universities for the Social Inclusion and Engagement in Mobility (SIEM) project.

The general objective of this project is to increase the opportunities and chances in life for underrepresented young students by increasing their participation in the Erasmus+ Mobility programme.

This will be achieved by upscaling the research on participation in student mobility, student-led and participatory processes. This will help create a toolkit with guidelines and a workshop manual to increase social engagement between international students and young people in order to strengthen the social impact of the Erasmus+ programme.

<https://bit.ly/3akpMHV>



A young person sharing personal experience during the Gender project in Emmen, 19-20 September



Learning in a fun way - A youth worker at the "Towards more Gender-Sensitivity in Youth Work" training in Munich, 17-21 June





Young participants inspired to paint the logo of the Europe3E project in Bernburg, 27-28 November

## Europe Through Young Eyes: Exchange, Explore, Exhibit

From 2019 to 2021, the YES Forum is coordinating the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership “Europe through Young Eyes: Exchange, Explore, Exhibit”.

This exciting new project will engage youth workers and young people from seven partner organisations and six different countries.

The project will encourage them to look at Europe from their perspective by trying new methods. Thus, they will carry out photovoice research, allowing them to share personal stories supported by photos, which will create a starting point for discussion about their opinions and ideas.

Additionally, trainings and a political simulation game will allow the participants to explore and deepen their knowledge of the EU, to make it more understandable and to develop their will to become active citizens!

<https://bit.ly/2vxrM0w>



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Participants registering for the Kinderstadt in Arvidsjaur, 01-07 July





Model for the Kinderstadt in Oradea, 14-17 January

### Kinderstadt Goes Europe!

Over the course of 21 months, the Kinderstadt Goes Europe! project has been training partners from several European countries in order to prepare them to create, design, and later on implement, their very own Kinderstadt.

‘Children’s Town’ is a pedagogical concept in a sort of Mini-city, which enables children and young people to experience complex relationships and processes of social life. The goal is to enhance active citizenship and intercultural competences of young participants.

Coordinated by St. Johannis GmbH with the support of the YES Forum, it promotes in a playful and low-threshold way what active participation in democratic and civic life can mean.

### Kick Off at Kinderstadt Bärenhausen

In July 2018, the Kinderstadt Goes Europe project started off with a first training hosted by coordinating organisation St Johannis GmbH in Bernburg, Germany. The training took place at the same time as the Kinderstadt Bärenhausen, Bernburg’s annual Children’s Town, which is the starting point of the project.

It proved a great opportunity for the project partners to experience a working Kinderstadt firsthand. Project partners got actively involved as ambassadors for their countries giving the participating children and young volunteers the chance to learn about Italy, Romania, Sweden, Lithuania and the Netherlands.

The Kinderstadt Bärenhausen was also a great inspiration for project partners of how different actors across the community can become involved: While the children are participants, older youth help out as volunteers, local businesses send their trainees or young staff to share their skills as well as providing funding and local politicians have the honourable task of opening the Kinderstadt, meaning everyone is involved!





A young volunteer helping youngsters at Kinderstadt in Bernburg, 4th July 2018

### A flexible concept

During different partner meetings, the concept was introduced and discussed, to allow partners to develop their own methodology, according to their specific context.

In May 2019 the Romanian partner adapted the concept to cater for the needs of 3-6 year olds. „Oraselul Curcubeu“ - Rainbow City was the name of the inclusive Kinderstadt bringing together Roma and non-Roma children from the local community. The many young volunteers from the community were greatly involved, thereby learning about and experiencing active citizenship themselves.

In July 2019, the participating youth organisations met in Arvidsjaur, Sweden, where the town experienced its first Kinderstadt as part of the town's festival "Let's Go Arvidsjaur". Many children got the opportunity to experience the Swedish take on Kinderstadt – including throwing a lasso (an important skill to catch reindeer) and a bubble party – with the help of volunteers from the community. Once again, a great adaptation of the original concept!

### Final steps

The project will be concluded in 2020.

The partners will draft guidelines and create a Kinderstadt "Wiki" to make it easier for interested organisations to try out the method.

Moreover, between 11-13 May 2020, the national Kinderstadt concepts and the European Guidelines for the realization of a children's town will be introduced to all YES Forum members, during the YES Forum annual event in Viareggio, Italy.

A great opportunity for the project partners to present this original concept to other youth organisations within the YES Forum network!

<https://bit.ly/2VG3nk0>

## YES FORUM'S ACTIVITIES

- 14-17 January, Oradea (RO):  
 “Kinderstadt goes Europe” –  
 2nd Transnational Project Meeting
- 22-27 January, Malmö (SE):  
 “DIVE” (Diversity in Pan-European Networks) –  
 3rd Training
- 7 March, Brussels (BE):  
 Participation in “Have your say in what the EP  
 should do for youth”, organized by the Youth  
 Outreach Unit of the EP
- 8 April, Manchester (UK):  
 YES Forum’s 2019 General Assembly
- 14-16 June, Brussels (BE):  
 “DIVE” (Diversity in Pan-European  
 Networks) – 4th Transnational Partner  
 Meeting & Final Conference
- 20-21 February, Berlin (DE):  
 Participation in KA2Now  
 “Innovation in Youth Work”, focusing on  
 strategic partnerships in Erasmus+ Youth
- 21-22 January, Manchester (UK):  
 H2020 “PROMISE” Partner Meeting
- 17-21 June, Munich (DE):  
 “Gender Sensitive Approaches in  
 Youth Work” – Staff Training
- 24-25 April, Aegina (GR):  
 “Gender Sensitive Approaches in Youth  
 Works” - 2nd Transnational Partner Meeting
- 8-9 April, Manchester (UK):  
 “PROMISE” Final Conference  
 “Young people and social change:  
 Action, Reaction and Inaction”



1-7 July, Arvidsjaur (SE):  
"Kinderstadt goes Europe" - 2nd Training

17-18 October, Stuttgart (DE):  
"Planning the Future: European  
Youth & Volunteering"

1-2 October, Bonn (DE):  
Participation in the 1st European Steering  
Group Meeting for the 3rd European Youth  
Work Convention

27-28 November, Bernburg (DE):  
"Europe through Young Eyes: Exchange,  
Explore, Exhibit" - Kick-off Meeting



17-18 October, Stuttgart (DE):  
"YES to Volunteering!" -  
3rd Staff Training

3-4 December, Paris (FR):  
"Social Inclusion and Engagement in Mobility"  
- Kick-off Meeting

19-20 September, Emmen (NL):  
"Gender Sensitive Approaches in Youth  
Work" - 3rd Transnational Partner Meeting

19-21 November, Strasbourg (FR):  
Participation in Edu4Europe  
"Forum on Education for European  
Democratic Citizenship"





Clip of a video displaying the PROMISE recommendations, made by young students



Participants at the PROMISE Final Conference in Manchester, 8-9 April

### Promoting Youth Involvement and Social Engagement

Launched in 2016, the PROMISE (“Promoting Youth Involvement and Social Engagement”) youth research project came to a successful end in 2019.

The project investigated the ways young people with a history of stigmatization or conflict participate in society. The focus was on the different ways they engage with social, environmental and political issues, and how they create opportunities for positive social opportunities.

The project was led by a research team of the University of Manchester and involved 12 collaborating centres in 10 different European countries. It was financed under the EU’s Horizon2020 research and innovation programme.

[www.promise.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.promise.manchester.ac.uk)

### Project results

PROMISE produced a comparative ethnography of young people in 10 European countries, a comparative quantitative analysis of attitudes, values and control, and policy papers and positive engagement strategies.

22 ethnographic case studies were carried out, focusing on a diverse range of youth that experience marginalisation and stigmatisation and therefore are in some way in conflict with society.

These included gender activists in Portugal, young ex-offenders in Estonia, radical left youth in Germany and many more.





Installation by young people at the PROMISE  
Final Conference in Manchester, 8-9 April

## European Policy Brief

The European Policy Brief shows how policy makers at the European level can promote the social engagement of young people, especially those dealing with conflict and marginalisation by giving four key recommendations:

- Recognising diverse life paths
- Enhancing the recognition and support of youth initiatives
- Promoting support structures
- Creating safe spaces for young people.

The four key recommendations were also made into an engaging video by YES Forum in cooperation with 'Framework'.

## Video Montage

Young people from the YES Forum secretariat and members worked together with the small media business 'Framework' to produce a video montage from the data received from the partners presenting a cross-national picture of young people's experiences. Videos and photos produced by the young people in each country yielding reflections on the substantive topics and the process from the young people's point of view were compounded into one video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KHCRtog0b-E>

## Final Conference

Three years of intensive work with and about young people came to an end at the Final Conference held at the University of Manchester from 8-9th April 2019.

PROMISE researchers, policy makers, practitioners and of course young people from all around Europe came together to present and discuss the findings under the title „Young People and Social Change: Action, Reaction and Inaction”.

A full and ambitious programme of activities took place including discussions, creative performances and exhibitions.

<https://bit.ly/2vxt0c8>



**PROMISE**

## Trusting All Youth to Build a Better Europe European Policy Brief



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon research and innovation programme under grant agreement no. 101019749

### INTRODUCTION

**Europe** is a continent of incredible diversity. It is a continent of many different cultures, languages, religions, and traditions. It is a continent of many different people, each with their own unique experiences and perspectives. It is a continent of many different challenges, each with its own unique solutions. It is a continent of many different opportunities, each with its own unique potential.

**Youth** is a time of great potential. It is a time of learning, growth, and discovery. It is a time of passion, energy, and creativity. It is a time of hope, optimism, and belief in a better future. It is a time of responsibility, leadership, and the ability to make a difference.

**PROMISE** is a project that aims to empower young people and support them in building a better Europe. It is a project that believes in the power of youth and the importance of their voices. It is a project that is committed to creating a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable future for all.

### 1. RECOGNISE DIVERSE LIFE PATHS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

The life paths of young people are diverse. They are shaped by their experiences, their interests, and their aspirations. They are shaped by the challenges they face and the opportunities they have. They are shaped by the support they receive and the barriers they encounter.



It is important to recognise and respect the diverse life paths of young people. It is important to provide them with the support and resources they need to pursue their dreams and achieve their goals.

It is important to create a more inclusive and equitable environment for young people. It is important to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to succeed and thrive.

It is important to listen to the voices of young people and involve them in the decision-making process. It is important to empower them and give them the tools they need to make a difference.

It is important to create a more supportive and nurturing environment for young people. It is important to provide them with the guidance and mentorship they need to succeed.

It is important to create a more positive and optimistic environment for young people. It is important to inspire them and give them the confidence they need to pursue their dreams.

It is important to create a more resilient and adaptable environment for young people. It is important to equip them with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

### 2. ENHANCE THE RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT OF YOUTH-LED INITIATIVES

Youth-led initiatives are a powerful way for young people to make a difference. They are a way for them to express their views, share their ideas, and take action on the issues that matter to them.



It is important to enhance the recognition and support of youth-led initiatives. It is important to provide them with the resources and funding they need to succeed.

It is important to create a more supportive environment for youth-led initiatives. It is important to provide them with the guidance and mentorship they need to thrive.

It is important to listen to the voices of young people and involve them in the decision-making process. It is important to empower them and give them the tools they need to make a difference.

It is important to create a more positive and optimistic environment for young people. It is important to inspire them and give them the confidence they need to pursue their dreams.

It is important to create a more resilient and adaptable environment for young people. It is important to equip them with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

It is important to create a more inclusive and equitable environment for young people. It is important to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to succeed and thrive.

### 3. PROMOTE SUPPORT STRUCTURES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Support structures are essential for young people. They provide them with the resources, guidance, and mentorship they need to succeed. They provide them with a sense of community and belonging.



It is important to promote support structures for young people. It is important to provide them with the resources and funding they need to succeed.

It is important to create a more supportive environment for young people. It is important to provide them with the guidance and mentorship they need to thrive.

It is important to listen to the voices of young people and involve them in the decision-making process. It is important to empower them and give them the tools they need to make a difference.

It is important to create a more positive and optimistic environment for young people. It is important to inspire them and give them the confidence they need to pursue their dreams.

It is important to create a more resilient and adaptable environment for young people. It is important to equip them with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

It is important to create a more inclusive and equitable environment for young people. It is important to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to succeed and thrive.

### 4. CREATE SAFE URBAN SPACES FOR YOUTH

Safe urban spaces are essential for young people. They provide them with a place to play, relax, and socialise. They provide them with a sense of community and belonging.



It is important to create safe urban spaces for young people. It is important to provide them with the resources and funding they need to succeed.

It is important to create a more supportive environment for young people. It is important to provide them with the guidance and mentorship they need to thrive.

It is important to listen to the voices of young people and involve them in the decision-making process. It is important to empower them and give them the tools they need to make a difference.

It is important to create a more positive and optimistic environment for young people. It is important to inspire them and give them the confidence they need to pursue their dreams.

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It is important to create a more inclusive and equitable environment for young people. It is important to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to succeed and thrive.

LLB Law  
BA Criminology  
LLB Law with Politics  
LLB Law with Criminology

Young students hanging the PROMISE final recommendation poster during the final conference in Manchester, 8-9 April

### Strengthening Professional Youth Work in the YourEP Project. An Evaluation.

Evaluating projects is, to a certain extent, part of every project the YES Forum is involved in. In 2019 however, the YES Forum received an in-depth evaluation of its YourEP project by collaborating with Nora Schroeder and Sophie Brandes from the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg.

The YourEP project was an Erasmus+-funded project to promote political participation of young people with fewer opportunities through political simulation. Youth work professionals and young people worked together for almost two years to create an inclusive, accessible simulation game of the European parliament. Overall, 10 youth workers and 30 young people were part of the core programme. The students explored if the YourEP project strengthened the participating youth workers professionally.

A competence based model was used to explore professional youth work in the evaluation. The SALTO Competence Model for Youth Workers to Work Internationally was developed specifically for European youth work and is the most recent competence model available for European youth work. The focus of the evaluation was put on the competence “designing programmes”, as this most accurately captures the anticipated competence development of youth workers creating a new simulation in the YourEP project.

The research was conducted as an external, summative outcome evaluation. It assessed which effects could be observed among the involved youth workers at the end of the project. The study used a mixed methods approach combining an online survey and focused interviews. The SALTO competence model's indicators for competence development in the area of designing programmes were used explicitly as statements in the online survey and implicitly as guidelines for analysis in the interviews

The results from the online survey show that for youth workers, working professionally in the YourEP project particularly meant to exchange knowledge with project partners and to pass on newly learned knowledge about the EU within their organisations. Furthermore, working as partners with the young people and becoming more aware of one's own professional competences were mentioned. The survey suggests that a positive competence development in the area of designing programmes was reached.

The results from the interviews show that when working professionally with youth, the relationship to the young person is paramount. Both interview partners found it important to guide young people well and to open up new perspectives especially regarding an international/European dimension. Furthermore, professional standards, learned in training courses and through professional experience, are a part of the common understanding of professional work that the youth workers shared in the interviews.

\* \*

Regarding the competence gain in the area of project development, the interviewees' reports show that the YourEP project has encouraged change. Mrs. Schwarz encounters lots of scepticism as to whether the project YourEP can be carried out with the youth she works with. Personally she sees many difficulties too, but displays a strong will to overcome these which is based on the positive experiences gained in the YourEP project. Mr Lang on the other hand was influenced by the YourEP project resulting in youth-centredness now being a greater value in his work. Moreover, he is now more confident and aware of the opportunities that politics offer for youth work.

General learning outcomes include both interview partners learning more about the EU and its political structures. Mr. Lang was impressed by the empowering effect of the project and now motivates younger participants by giving them the perspective of taking part in those projects when they are older.

As respondents reported they now think differently, act differently, improved their skills in the area of designing programmes and know how to go about this more, positive competence development in the four areas of attitude, behaviour, skills and knowledge was identified. Therefore, the result of the research is that indeed the YourEP project strengthened the participating youth workers professionally.

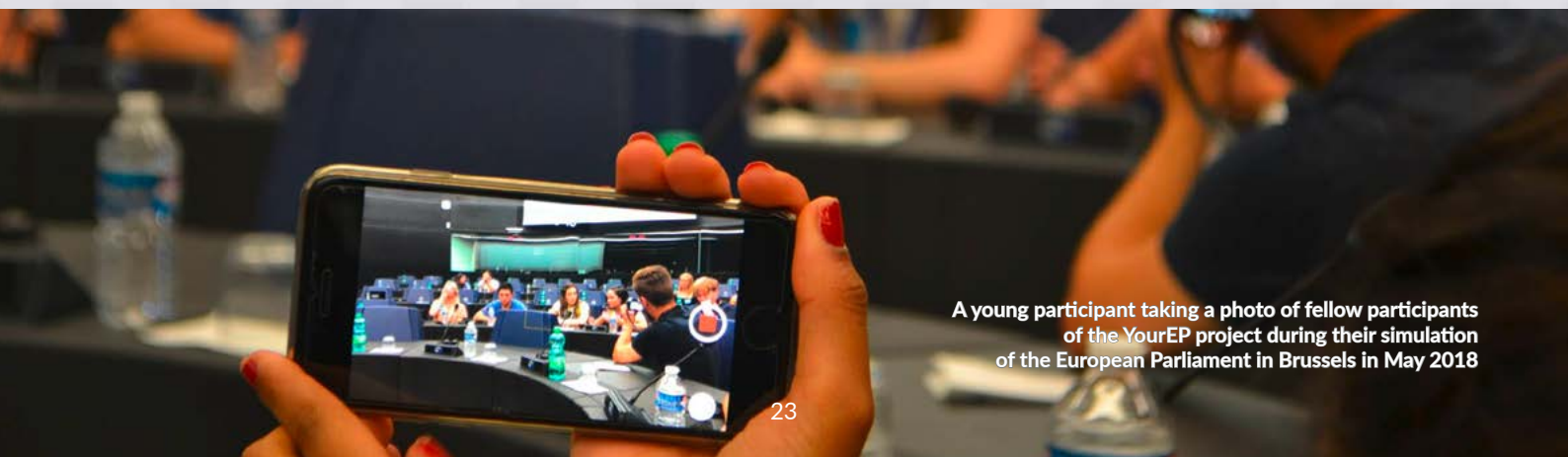
*"The YES Forum gives me the opportunity to carry out evaluation research for the YourEP project. What is special for me is that it enables me to build a bridge between my skills as a social pedagogue from my first training, the new knowledge from my master's degree and practical social research."* - Nora Schroeder, Germany, study project in cooperation with the YES Forum.

As the strengthening of professional youth work is one of the YES Forum's main goals, we recommend to consider this in all projects. Reviewing if the YES Forum reaches its goals (and if needed adjusting its procedures accordingly) holds the opportunity for the YES Forum to stand more strongly and confidently present its quality in the knowledge that it does meaningful work.

Nora Schroeder and Sophie Brandes

## Bibliography

JUGEND für Europa/SALTO Training & Cooperation (Hrsg.). (2016). European Training Strategy. A Competence Model for Youth Workers to Work Internationally. Bonn.



A young participant taking a photo of fellow participants of the YourEP project during their simulation of the European Parliament in Brussels in May 2018



A woman with curly brown hair, wearing a white ribbed sweater, is speaking and gesturing with her hands. She is in the foreground, looking slightly to the left. In the background, there are other people seated and standing in a bright, modern room with white walls and a drop ceiling. A bookshelf with colorful books is visible on the left. A purple semi-transparent banner is at the bottom of the image.

# ADVOCACY

To ensure that all young people are given the opportunity for a brighter future, YES Forum builds bridges between European Youth, youth practitioners and policy makers at EU and national levels.

YES Forum always seeks to make young people's voices heard, by representing them at the European, national and local levels. By doing so, YES Forum creates a link between young people's needs and aspirations, and the stakeholders who are able to have a positive impact on their lives, being youth workers or policy makers.

To this end, in 2019, YES Forum has contributed to numerous events related to Youth Policies, such as:

- The conference KA2Now "Innovation in Youth Work", which was held between 20-21 February in Berlin.
- "Have your say in what the EP should do for youth" event in the European Parliament, on the 7th March in Brussels.
- The 1st European Steering Group for the European Youth Work Convention, between 1-2 October in Bonn.
- Edu4Europe "Forum on Education for European Democratic Citizenship" Conference between 19-21 November in Strasbourg.
- PROMISE Final conference in Manchester, UK between 8-9 April.



YES Forum members at the "Have your say in what the EP should do for youth" in Brussels, 7th March

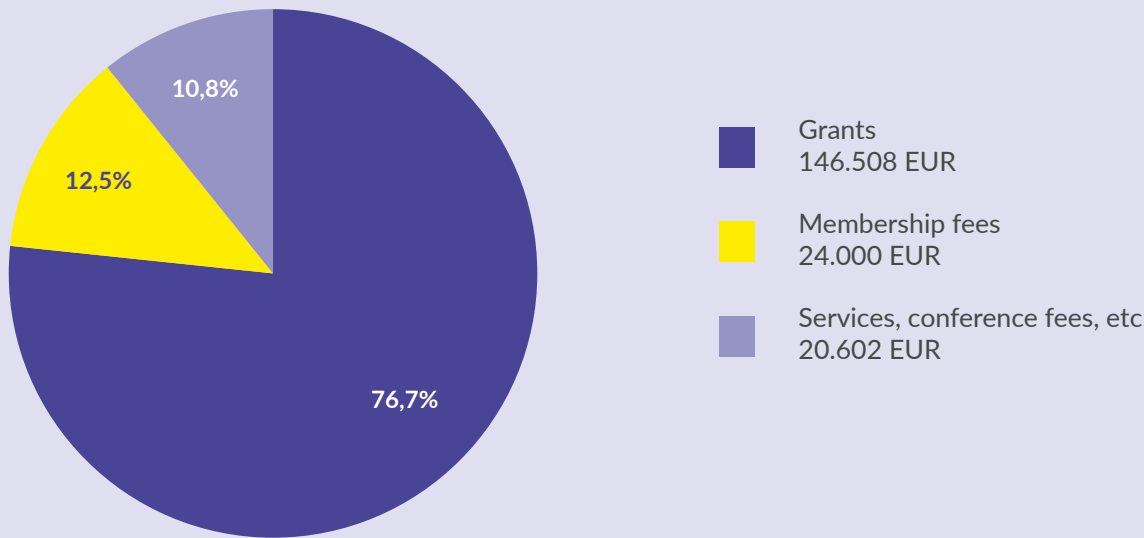
A small green plant with two leaves is growing out of a glass jar filled with coins. The jar is made of clear glass and is filled with several coins, some of which are visible at the top. The background is a light, neutral color.

# BUDGET

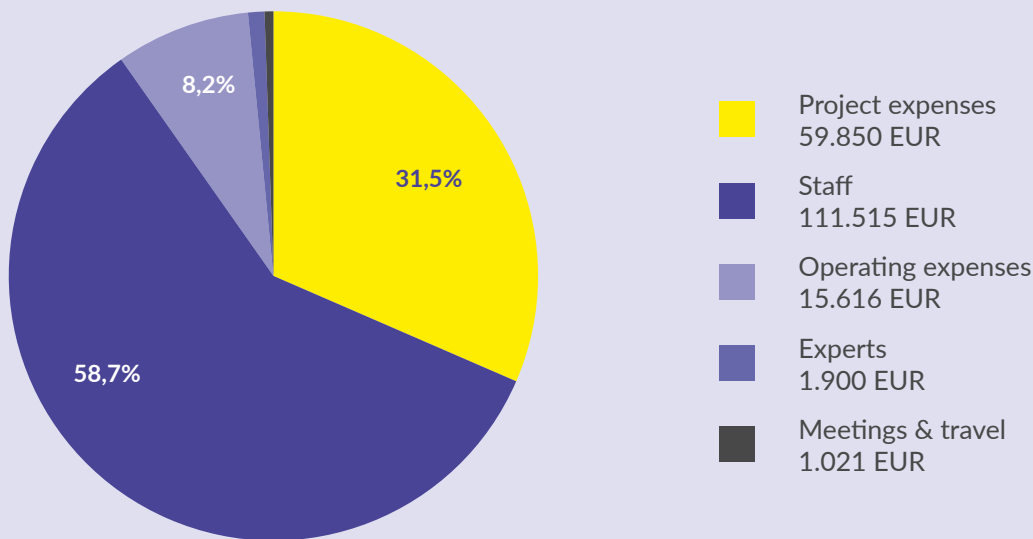
YES Forum creates impact through its effective and efficient use of resources. With tight budgets, we deliver significant results. Imagine what we can do with more!



Income



Expenses





# STRUCTURE

YES Forum is a membership driven organisation, with multiple ways of engaging within the network.

YES Forum members brainstorming during the Project Planning Meeting, Stuttgart, 18 October

The YES Forum, founded as EEIG, is a membership driven organisation. Aims are achieved through our democratic structure with full participation of members. Elected by the members, the Board of Directors represents and protects the member's interest in the network, and supervises the budget and activities. The appointed Managing Director is responsible for running the business of the EEIG and internal organisation.

To manage the activities and to support effective internal and external communication, the YES Forum is supported by the Secretariat in Stuttgart. In the Secretariat experienced staff work together with young people in training as apprentices and EVS-volunteers in a dynamic environment.

Do you want to become a member? Then please check here! <https://goo.gl/kUOGKs>



## BOARD

**Ronald de Haan,**  
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**Alexander Hauser,**  
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Municipality of Skellefteå, Sweden

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## YES FORUM SECRETARIAT

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Director and Project Manager

**Diana Neugebauer,**  
Finance and Administration Officer

**Elie Demerseman,**  
Communication & Project Officer (until February)

**Fabian Besche,**  
Assistant Research and Projects (until May)

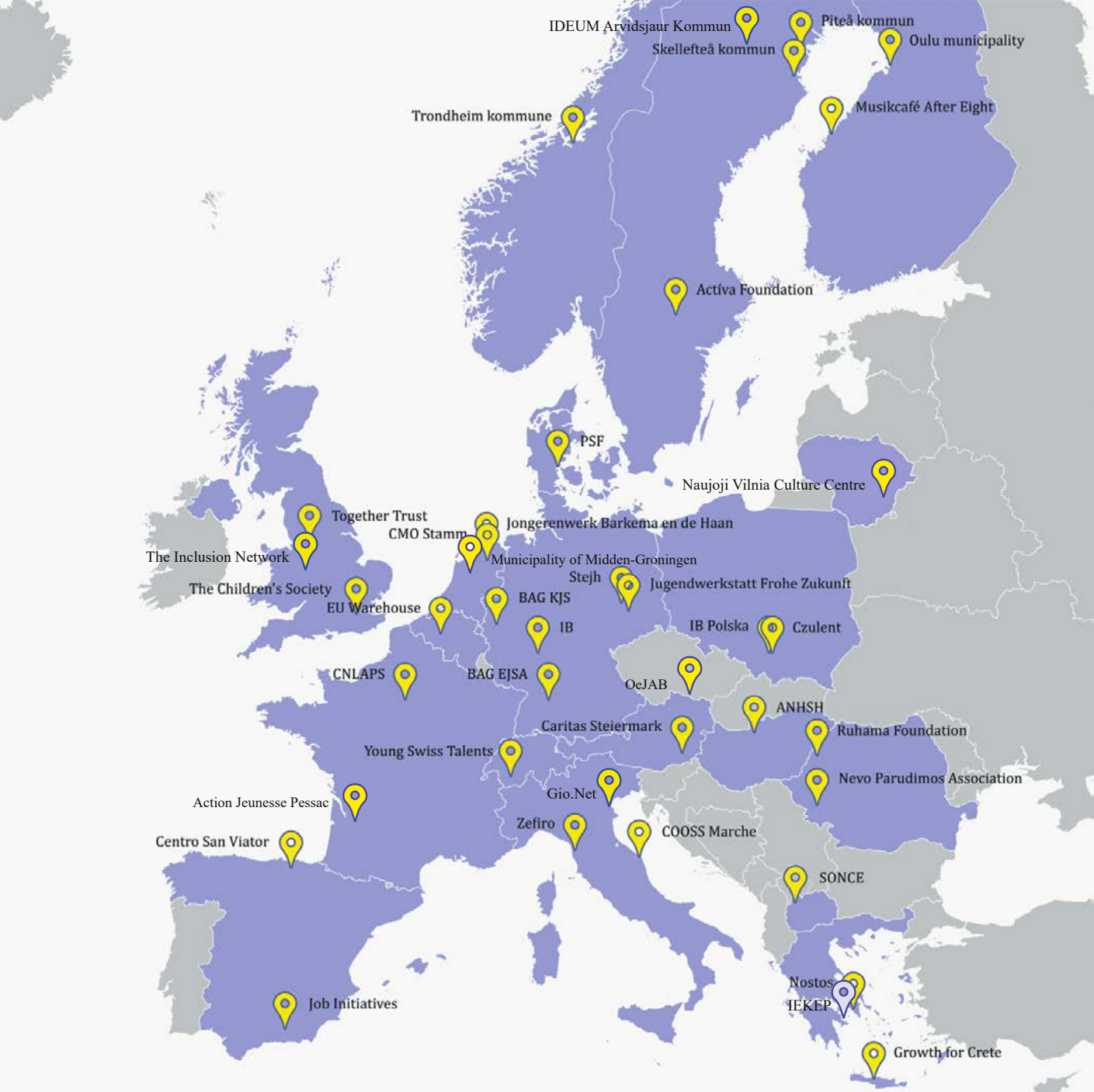
**Sophie Brandes,**  
Project Assistant

**Orane Jouanneau,**  
EVS (from September)

**Theresa Streib,**  
Administration (February-April and August)



OUR NETWORK



Welcome to our newest member: IEKEP (Institute of Training and Vocational Guidance), Greece



„The YES Forum provides a trusted network of professionals that we are happy to be among and have the opportunity to work with! It has been a real pleasure to see the organization's work in previous years and thus we wanted to be part of the activity and the connections that it brings to European organizations. IEKEP is a nonprofit vocational training center that targets vulnerable groups and is very active in the field providing career counseling, employment support and trainings of various kinds. We strongly believe that through the YES Forum we have the opportunity to get to know how other organizations work, find trusted collaborations and expand our capacity and knowledge.“ Lilika Trikalinou, Director



Stiftung Evangelische Jugendhilfe  
St. Johannis Bernburg



CZULENT  
STOWARZYSZENIE ŻYDOWSKIE



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March 2020

## YES Forum Membership in Networks:

- Social Platform
- European Anti Bullying Network



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Text written by Orane Jouanneau and Sophie Brandes.

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The template used to produce this Annual Report was designed by Iurii Nechyporenko at the „Medienwerkstatt of Stiftung Evangelische Jugendhilfe St. Johannis“.