

European territorial cooperation boosting youth employability

28 June 2021 | Online meeting

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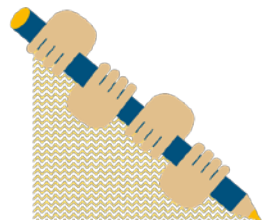


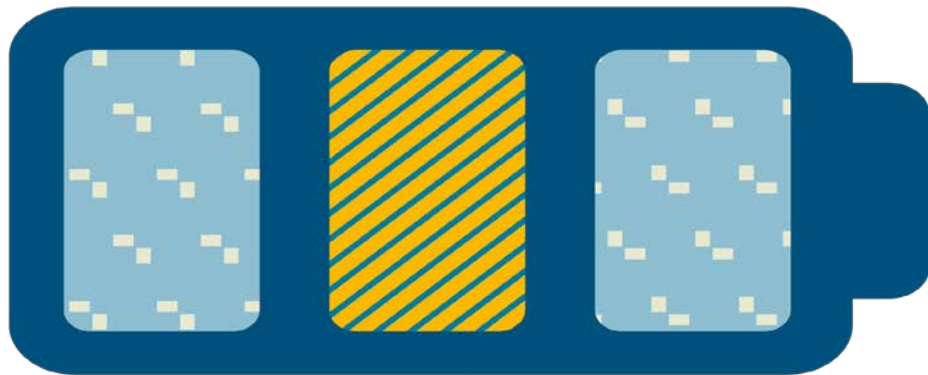
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Trends and future opportunities for youth employability in the post COVID-19 era.

Loes Van der Graaf, Senior Researcher

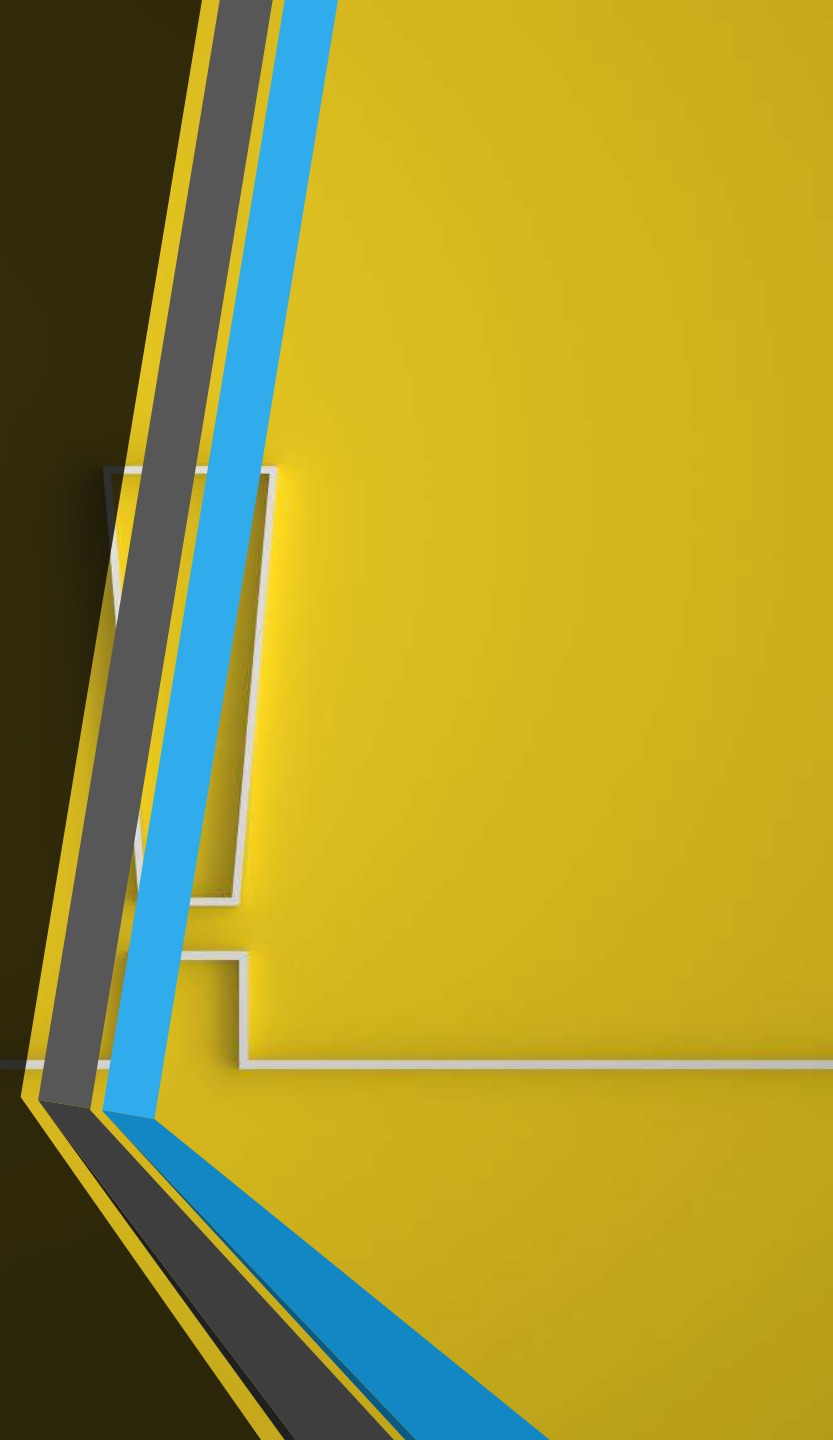


Loes van der Graaf

Trends and future
opportunities for youth
employability in the
post COVID-19 era.

Efuribe, Barre-Hemingway, Vaghefi, & Suleiman (2020):

“Authorities asked young people and youth organisations to make significant sacrifices during the pandemic without having taken into account their needs and intentions, nor having the possibility that their voice led to governmental actions”




Dealing with COVID-19 anxiety through meaningful work:

- Production of masks
- Groceries for elderly
- Activities for children
- Community-based volunteering
- Online volunteering worldwide







Opportunities of digitalization for youth

- Development of ICT skills useful for the labour market
- Participation in a wider range of activities with a wider range of other youth
- Participation in virtual mobility (education, volunteering, work-related)
- Participation in discussions with decision-makers.

What is “Youth
Employability”?



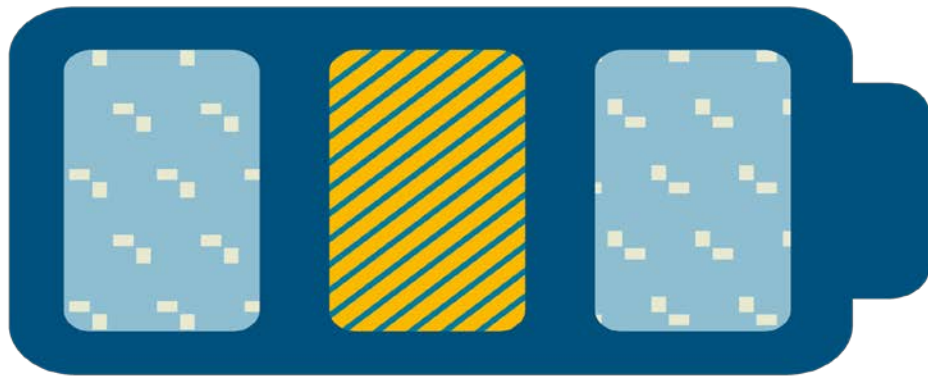


Check here the links for

[“Education and youth in post-Covid-19 Europe - Crisis effects and policy recommendations”](#).
[Published by the European Parliament, 2020](#)

Youth Manifesto to Shape the European Cooperation Policy and opportunities for youth support set in the new regulations.

Slawomir Tokarski. Director for Interreg, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission





Of course Interreg, with its limited budget, cannot solve all of the problems, but it can help to make the obstacles more visible and widely recognized, which might trigger pressure for finding solutions.

S. Tokarski



Actions should not only be about youth,
but with youth: involve them from the
beginning.

S. Tokarski

Conclusions

Different approaches in **cooperation programmes to ensure a stronger youth employability:**

1. projects supporting self-employability of young people through training, or youth entrepreneurs
2. providing young people with education and training helping them to integrate into the society.
3. cross-border mobility for workers and students includes mapping and shedding light on border obstacles.
4. new training strategies for youth, giving them new skills and working experience.

Other aspects of the new 2021-2027 regulations that favour **youth inclusion in Interreg.**

1. Special attention to small projects targeting youth organisations
2. Youth Manifesto. 12 recommendations and a call on you to involve youth in the preparation as well as in the implementation of programmes and macro-regional strategies.



Check here the links for:

[The Youth Manifesto](#)

[Interreg Volunteer Youth](#)

[AEBR](#)

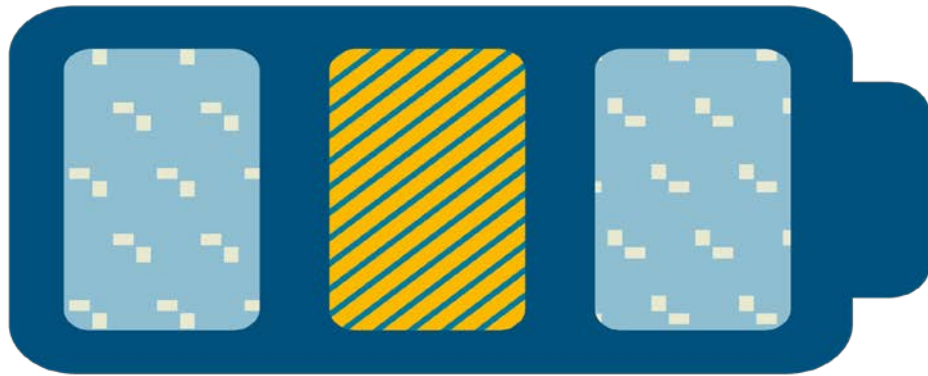
**How to join Interreg Core Group for the
Youth Manifesto?**

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13908870/>

Also contact: Erminia.LAZZARA@ec.europa.eu and

Louise.FLOMAN@ec.europa.eu

Employability of young people in Europe. Interreg and MRS contributions.





With 341 projects on youth employment and training and a total budget of 254 million euros, European cooperation has a lot to say in the EU Youth and Employment policy

Source: *Keep.eu* |

Employability of young people in Europe – Interreg contribution

- **Matthieu Guary. RESMYLE project (ENI CBC MED)**
- **Carmela Sfregola and Sonia Amendolare. Craft-Lab project (Interreg Greece-Italy). Le Moire start-up.**
- **Marc De Roeck. Trampoline project (Interreg POCTEFA)**
- **Kalle Pakalén. RYE CONNECT! project (NPA programme)**
- **Jörg Mirtl, EU Strategy for the Danube Region, Priority Area 9 (People and Skills)**



Check here the links for :

- [RESMYLE project](#) (ENI CBC MED)
- [Craft-Lab project](#) (Interreg Greece-Italy). [Video](#). Le Moire start-up. [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)
- [Trampoline project](#) (Interreg POCTEFA)
- Kalle Pakalén. [RYE CONNECT! project](#) (NPA programme)

Macro-Regional Strategies and youth employability

The case of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region

Interact capitalisation meeting, 28 June 2021



EU Strategy for the Danube Region 



Work Areas of Priority Area 9 „People and Skills“

Coordinated by Austria, the Rep of Moldova and Ukraine

Labour Market

ACTION 1: Intensify Cooperation in Labour Market Policies

ACTION 2: Digitalisation and Innovation in the World of Work

ACTION 3: Integration of Vulnerable Groups into the Labour Market

ACTION 4: Fighting Poverty and Promoting Social Inclusion for All

Education

ACTION 5: Quality and Efficiency of Education and Training Systems

ACTION 6: Relevant and High-Quality Knowledge, Skills and Competences

ACTION 7: Lifelong Learning and Learning Mobility

ACTION 8: Inclusive Education, Equity, Common Values and Sustainable Development

Underlying assumption - hypothesis

- MRS connect investment and cooperation
- MRS connect a deeper Union with a wider Union

Examples of projects we work with

NEW DANUBIAN GOVERNANCE IN LABOUR MARKET RELEVANCE OF HIGHER EDUCATION (EDU-LAB)

PARTICIPATING DR COUNTRIES

Belgium
 Bosnia and Herzegovina
 Bulgaria
 Croatia
 Germany (Baden-Württemberg, Lead Applicant)
 Hungary
 Romania
 Serbia
 Slovakia
 Slovenia

DURATION

2017 – 2019

CONTACT

European Foundation for Education, Germany
 Dr. Des. Agnes Sebestyén,
 Project director, agnes.sebestyen@e-f-e.eu

WEBSITE

www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/edu-lab

EDU-LAB is a project aiming to improve the professional chances of young people in the Danube region. The starting point for developing a new mindset is capacity development. EDU-LAB brings together partners from the higher education sector, business organizations, national public authorities and policy makers (triple helix cooperation model). 27 partners from 10 countries are co-operating for 2,5 years to link education to employment in a sustainable way. EDU-LAB is aimed at addressing fields with major societal challenges:

- » Labour market policies
- » Education systems and policies
- » Demographic change and migration

The specific objectives of EDU-LAB are to:

- » Enhance cooperation between business, Higher Education and public authorities
 - » Encourage the further development of Higher Education Acts
 - » Foster the creation of more professionally-oriented study programmes
- EDU-LAB creates a “Danubian Charter

for young talents” to embody the new governance model improving professional chances for young talents in their home areas.



„The basic idea of EDU-LAB was to give a fair chance to young people from the Danube region to improve their professional and personal perspectives.“

JOINT OPPORTUNITIES IN BUSINESS FOR YOUTH (JOBs4Youth)

The JOBs4YOUTH project aims to expand the process of the cross-border cooperation between the Republic of Moldova and the Ukraine by supporting youth initiating innovative business activities with strong social and economic cross-border impact. The project runs 14 months and is funded within the Eastern Partnership Territorial Cooperation Program, the Cross-border Cooperation Program Moldova – Ukraine and with the support of the German Organization for International Cooperation (GIZ). The project focuses on:

- » harmonizing the theoretical knowledge of youth with practical skills to meet economic and innovative necessities in cross-border areas;
- » increasing the access of young entrepreneurs of cross-border areas to new international financing opportunities;
- » facilitating the creation of new job opportunities and self-employment prospects.

Within the project, 60 young people (30 from the Ukraine and 30 from Moldova) will have benefitted from entrepreneurial

training sessions in Moldova and the Ukraine, pitch training, mentorship and support activities, and from on-line assistance and consultations concerning business plan writing and cross-border entrepreneurial cooperation. Participants will be encouraged to elaborate on business plans and participate by using them in their own context and at Seed Forum events.



PARTICIPATING DR COUNTRIES

Republic of Moldova
Ukraine

DURATION

2017 – 2019

CONTACT

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and medium Enterprises
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Tel: +373 22 29-57-41
Fax: +373 22 29-57-97
office@odimm.md
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WEBSITE

[www.facebook.com/
Joint-Opportunities-in-
Business-for-Youth-
1781493231882998/?hc_
location=ufi](https://www.facebook.com/Joint-Opportunities-in-Business-for-Youth-1781493231882998/?hc_location=ufi)

LABOUR MARKET POLICY SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR MOLDOVA

The project „Labour Market Policy Support Programme for Moldova” extends the already existing cooperation between Austria and the Republic of Moldova in the field of active labour market policy. At the focus of this programme are the specific needs of the Moldovian labour market institutions and the priorities, the Austrian Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection has in Moldova.

The overall objective of the project is to promote the further convergence

of the Republic of Moldova into the European Union by familiarising the relevant labour market institutions with those tools that can facilitate labour market development and job creation. The project should therefore be recognised as part of the European efforts to slow down employment-induced emigration and create new job opportunities in the country itself.

„The Labour Market Policy Support Programme for Moldova is a very helpful instrument in supporting the establishment of effective instruments in the field of active employment policy in Moldova.”

Austrian Social Attaché in Moldova



PARTICIPATING DR COUNTRIES

Austria
Moldova

DURATION

2018 – 2019

CONTACT

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Embedding

A component of the PAC project (DTP)



Implementing transnational cooperation

Transnational project capitalisation



Coordinated transnational calls





Implementing transnational cooperation

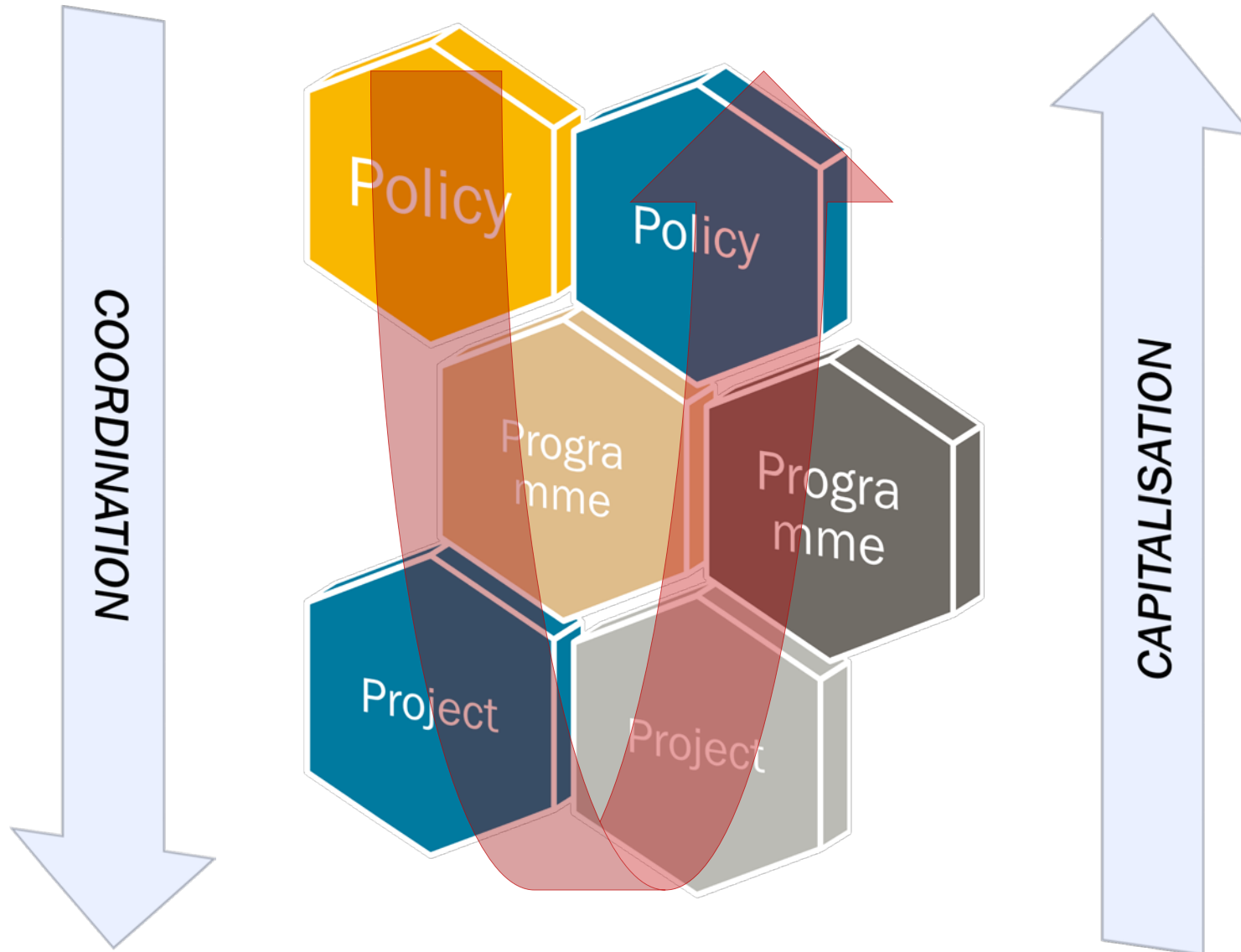
Transnational project capitalisation



Coordinated transnational calls



MRS?



Thank you very much for your attention!

Jörg Mirtl, L&R Social Research – EU Strategy for the Danube Region, Priority Area
9 „Investing in People and Skills“

<https://peopleandskills.danube-region.eu/>

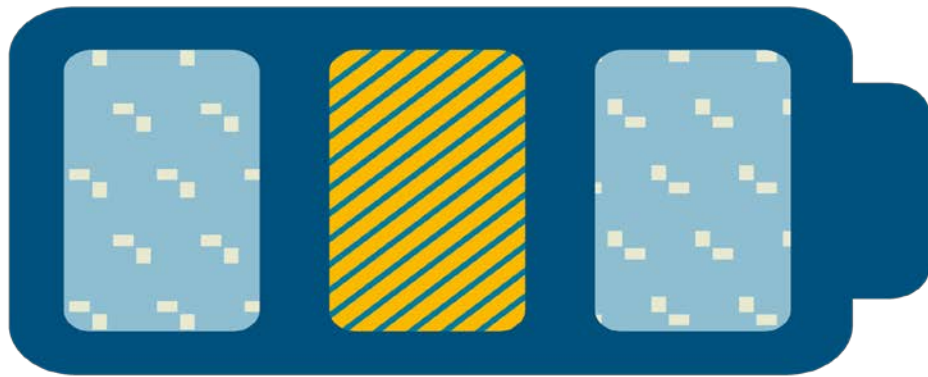


Check here the links for MRS networks:

- [EU Strategy for the Danube Region, Priority Area 9 \(People and Skills\)](#)
- [ESF Managing Authorities Network in the Danube](#)
- [Tailor-made education programme for NEETs in the Baltic Sea Region](#)



Involving young people into territorial cooperation. Discussion





What should European Cooperation priorities be in the future according to young people?

1. Improving young people's skills & increase access to training opportunities.
2. Boosting employment for young people in Europe.
3. Simplification of rules and a better communication via digital tools.
4. Addressing Climate Change issues for a better future.
5. Boosting citizens' engagement in policy making & implementation.

Source: Youth Manifesto

Involving young people into territorial cooperation

- **Io Chatzivaryti. EU Programmes advisor of Dracma Chamber of Commerce. Mentor of over 10 IVY's in several Interreg projects.**
- **Katerina Demertzi. IVY mentor in SOCIAL PLATE project**
- **Melanie Plangger. EUSALP Youth Council.**



Check here the links for :

- Io Chatzivaryti. EU Programmes advisor of Dracma Chamber of Commerce. Mentor of over 10 IVY's in several Interreg projects. [Social Forces Project](#)
- Katerina Demertzi. IVY mentor in [Social Plate](#) project

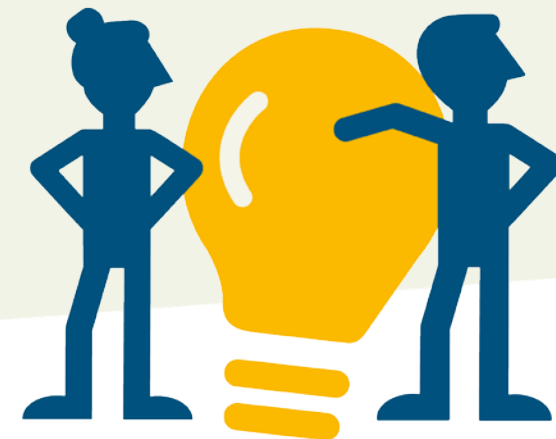


Check here the links for EUSALP initiatives:

- [EUSALP Youth Council](#). Melanie Plangger.
- [Manifesto for a sustainable and resilient Alpine region](#)



**How to build a long habit of
cooperation between young
people and Interreg and
beyond**



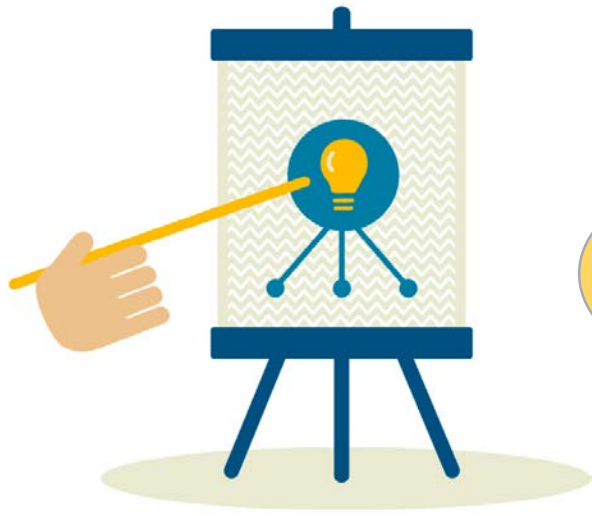


Some ideas....

- Youth quota in Interreg.
- Youth and gender indicators in Interreg programmes and projects.
- Young Volunteering (IVY) in a systemized way.
- Project calls involving diverse youth realities.



Closing and next steps, next events...



INTERact 
Events 

Social Innovation



INTERact 
Library 



Youth employment opportunities



IG Postcards

Interact publications for Youth...



Library



- [Magazine: Stories of European Cooperation](#)
Last issue, just released
- [Report on Youth education and training.](#)
Interreg's contribution.

Next to come!

- Inclusive Growth Postcards and a report on Youth and employment opportunities.



Conclusions from the debate :

- Need for more youth **ENGAGEMENT**, **EMPOWERMENT** and **ACKNOWLEDGE DIVERSITY**. No one should be left behind. Young people is very diverse and there are different challenges. Policy makers and Interreg should not forget such diversity. There should be a focus on those young people with no education, employment, or training (NEETs).
- IVY: Successful practice that needs to be followed up and It allows programmes to think out of the box.

Thank you for your participation!

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Cooperation works

All materials will be available on:

www.interact-eu.net

