

YouthProAktiv Newsletter

YouthProAktiv <ypa@youthproaktiv.org>

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YouthProAktiv

NEWSLETTER

Dear friends, colleagues, and youth enthusiasts: Greetings in this March edition of the YouthProAktiv newsletter. This month has been filled with vibrant activities, enhancing the impact on our community, and discovering thrilling prospects. Keep an eye out for updates as we progress in our shared journey!

[http://]YouthProAktiv's Educational Projects

For the Erasmus+ KA2 “**SESI**” (**Social Entrepreneurship as enabler of Social Inclusion**), we have continued to work with our consortium partners (Espacio Geránios, AIDE, Fundacja reGeneracja, and Imagine Apps) in promoting social entrepreneurship as a vehicle for social inclusion.

This month has been dedicated to our **Matching Up Sessions**. Specifically, we facilitated two online sessions, on the 5th and the 17th of March 2024, where social entrepreneurs from all partner countries interacted with local youngsters and youth workers, fostering discussions about the challenges and opportunities within local social businesses.



The youngsters were able to explore the viability and sustainability of their ideas and projects by asking advice and experiences to the social entrepreneurs who joined the sessions as mentors. These exchanges allowed

for the sharing of valuable experiences, recommendations, and ideas, enriching all participants.

[http://]Mobility Program Opportunity: International Training Experience

We are excited to announce the opportunity for three youngsters and one youth worker from Belgium (open to all nationalities) to participate in an **“Incubator International Training Experience.”** This program, covering flights, accommodation, training, and meals, will take participants to Romania and Poland. Dates are as follows:

- **May 20th - 25th:** International training in Râmnicu Vâlcea, Romania (hosted by AIDE).
- **June 2nd - 7th:** International training in Ciechianow, Poland (hosted by Fundacja reGeneracja).

This call particularly encourages applicants from disadvantaged backgrounds with a good command of English (B2-C1) and a keen interest in social entrepreneurship.

These transnational learning activities aim to equip youth workers and young people with the skills of social entrepreneurs, fostering a deeper understanding of social issues. By enhancing their entrepreneurial spirit and professional capabilities, participants will become more influential in their communities, advocating for social change. The training will be supplemented by online coaching sessions to further develop participants' social business ideas/initiatives.

How to Participate: Interested candidates should send a motivation letter to sesi@youthproaktiv.org explaining why they wish to join the SESI international mobility training.

[http://]YouthProAktiv's Innovation Projects

On March 22nd, YouthProAktiv hosted the online event **“Empowering NEETs across Europe”**, marking the conclusion of this KA2 Erasmus+ project aimed at supporting individuals Not in Employment, Education, or Training (NEETs) across Europe. This project was a collaborative effort, involving partner organizations from Slovenia, Greece, and Spain.

During the event, we shared insights into the challenges faced by NEETs, the solutions developed through our project, and the overall impact achieved. Collaborating with organizations from various European countries was a fulfilling experience, uniting us in our mission to empower NEETs and create positive change.

Among the outcomes, we are excited to highlight a [toolkit of non-formal activities](#) designed for youth workers on how to empower and activate NEETs in four main fields: Digital, Economic, Social, and Democratic. Additionally, the project participants created **several videos covering the four main topics of the project:** [digital empowerment](#), [economic empowerment](#), [democratic](#)

[empowerment](#), and [social empowerment](#). Moreover, our YouTube channel features specific resources dedicated to [Digital Activation](#), and [Economic Activation](#).

We invite you to replicate and share these resources within your community, schools, youth centers, and with anyone you believe might benefit from these non-formal methodologies created by and for the youth.

YouthProAktiv's Advocacy Projects

[http://]Empowering Youth for the EP24 Elections: Entrepreneurship and Democratic Engagement

In our commitment to inspire and mobilize Europe's youth ahead of the European Parliament elections in June 2024, our project, "An Entrepreneurship-Friendly Europe: Your Vote, Your EU", continued to make strides this March. We were thrilled to present "Understanding EU Elections: My MEPs on the Together.eu Platform" on March 20th, a pivotal event in our series aimed at highlighting the significance of every vote.



This session was enriched by the insights of **Pol Villaverde**, President and Founder of *Palumba EU*, and **Florentina Penescu**, Communications Manager. Through their expertise, the webinar shone a spotlight on the innovative efforts of Palumba EU in creating the first Pan-European Voting Advice Application, specifically designed by and for the youth. This tool is a strategic initiative to diminish electoral abstention, propelling democracy, unity, and a proactive response to the ecological crisis by empowering the younger generation.

The speakers' contributions were instrumental in conveying the event's core message: the indispensable role of informed participation and the profound impact of youth involvement on shaping a future of innovation, inclusivity, and sustainability for Europe. You can watch the recording of the webinar [here](#).

Join Us in Our Upcoming Webinars:

- April 3rd: [Analyzing my MEP entrepreneurial profile](#). Gain insights into the entrepreneurial tendencies of MEPs and understand how they support entrepreneurship.
- April 17th: [Workshop: Contacting MEPs](#). Learn effective strategies for reaching out to MEPs, enabling you to advocate for your interests and concerns directly.
- April 30th: [Coordinating Our Social Media Campaign - "Your Vote, Your EU"](#). Participate in strategizing for our social media campaign to amplify our message, engage young voters, and emphasize the role of entrepreneurship in EU policy-making.

[http://]Youth Goal Webinars

This month we have embraced the vibrant energy of Europe's youth with two compelling webinars, setting the stage for the 2024 European Parliament elections and fostering a culture of inclusivity.

The "**Connecting EU with Youth**" webinar on March 8th was a deep dive into activating young Europeans' participation in EU democracy. Led by **Elena Pérez Velasco**, it was more than just a webinar; it was an invitation to action. With her expertise from the European Economic and Social Committee, Elena shared insights into leveraging civil society initiatives for greater youth involvement. Her session bridged her professional experiences with actionable strategies for youth to engage more meaningfully in the EU's democratic process. You can access the recording of the webinar [here](#).

And, on March 27th, "**Creation of Inclusive Societies**" took the spotlight with Olivia Lori Iglesias at the helm. Drawing from her extensive experience with EU institutions and a passion for social inclusion, Olivia focused on the empowerment of all young Europeans, especially highlighting the needs of those with disabilities. The webinar showcased innovative approaches and the role of EU policies in promoting inclusivity, with Olivia's social media initiatives serving as a key channel for raising awareness and encouraging a more inclusive dialogue. You can watch the recording of the webinar [here](#).

Join us for the following webinars:

- April 10th: Youth Goal Webinar 3: [Space and Participation for All. European Parliament elections](#)
- April 25th: Youth Goal Webinar 4: [Equality of All Genders](#)

[http://]YouthProAktiv's first 2024 General Assembly

On March 4th, 2024, we hosted our first **General Assembly of the year**. Our coalition members had the chance to acquaint themselves with new team members, fostering a sense of cohesion and unity within our growing community.

Throughout the assembly, diverse topics were explored, ranging from ongoing advocacy endeavors to forthcoming educational ventures. Of particular significance were **discussions centered on amplifying youth voices in democratic processes**, with a spotlight on the upcoming European Parliament elections.

Moreover, the assembly provided a **platform to unveil innovative projects aimed at enhancing digital literacy and fostering entrepreneurship among youth**. Attendees delved into the details of initiatives such as the JOVID APP and the Digital Skill-up Tutorial, recognizing their potential to equip young people with valuable skills and opportunities for personal and professional growth.

The assembly culminated in a **renewed sense of purpose and determination**, as members reaffirmed their commitment to advancing our organization's mission of empowering youth and driving positive change on both local and global scales. The second General Assembly for 2024 is scheduled for October.

Meet our Team

Zayneb Dahhaoui El Barni hails originally from Spain, holding a degree in English Studies and currently pursuing a Master's degree in Advanced International and European Studies at the University of Granada. With a profound passion for international diplomacy and European politics, Zayneb embarked on her professional journey as a language teacher in a language school. Subsequently, she transitioned into the role of a European project manager at AIFED. Zayneb is deeply committed to gender equality and human rights, principles that serve as steadfast guides in both her personal and professional endeavors. Her unwavering dedication to comprehending and analyzing European and international policies has significantly shaped her academic and professional trajectory.



As March progresses, the YouthProAktiv team expresses sincere gratitude for your steadfast commitment to empowering youth. Through our collective efforts, we anticipate generating lasting positive impacts that will reverberate in the months to come and into the future!



With kind regards,
The YouthProAktiv team

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