



# **PROGRAMME**

***EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, STRASBOURG***  
***13-14 JUNE 2025***



## **GUIDE TO EYE2025 PROGRAMME**

EYE2025 (European Youth Event) will take place on 13 and 14 June in the European Parliament in Strasbourg. The programme of the event is co-created with institutional partners, youth organisations and groups of participants.

EYE2025 offers a wide variety of hybrid and in-person activities: panels, workshops, tours, Q&As, quizzes, stands, performances - there's something for everyone.

To help you navigate the programme, activities are structured along three tracks:

Activities within the **ENGAGE** track expand your understanding of the European Union and offer exchanges with decision-makers.

Activities within the **EMPOWER** track boost your active citizenship skills.

Activities within the **CONNECT** track provide networking opportunities and cultural exchange.

Please note that this version of the programme only includes the main activities organised by the Youth Outreach Unit of the European Parliament. The final version will be available online prior to the booking of activities.

## **ACTIVITIES**

*Organised by: Youth Outreach Unit, European Parliament*

### **EYE2025 OPENING CEREMONY**

Opening ceremony in the EYE Village.

**ENGAGE**

### **EYE2025 CLOSING PLENARY**

The EYE2025 closing plenary in the Hemicycle with high-level speakers.

**ENGAGE**

### **UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **PATHWAYS TO FAIR EMPLOYMENT**

Among the EU measures to combat youth unemployment is the Youth Guarantee, a commitment by EU Member States to ensure all young people under the age of 30 receive a good-quality offer of employment, continued education, an apprenticeship or a traineeship within four months of unemployment or leaving formal education. In the last two decades however, the unemployment rate of young Europeans has consistently been around twice as high as the general unemployment rate. Young people today are facing an increasingly insecure job market. How can we do better? What steps can be taken to improve employment quality and increase job stability for young people? How do the Traineeship Directive, the Youth Guarantee and other initiatives aim to tackle these issues? How can we support diversity, inclusiveness and accessibility in the youth labour market?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**ENGAGE**

## **DEFENDING DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

### **SAFEGUARDING FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND MEDIA**

The EU charter of fundamental rights guarantees EU citizens' rights. Yet human rights in Europe face critical challenges when it comes to individual liberties and corruption as well as in terms of freedom of speech and media freedom. Journalists increasingly face intimidation and disinformation. Policies such as the European Media Freedom Act (EMFA) aim to protect media, although there is still much work to be done to tackle ownership transparency, media pluralism and journalist safety. How can the EU strengthen democratic principles in the face of emerging challenges? In what ways can the EU effectively support and safeguard media pluralism within its member states? What role should the EU play in combating disinformation? How can Europe balance free speech while regulating harmful content?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**ENGAGE**

## **TOWARDS CLIMATE JUSTICE?**

### **EVALUATING THE EU'S GREEN TRANSITION**

Ten years ago, 196 countries agreed on a collective effort to keep global warming below 2 degrees Celsius and tackle the effects of climate change in the historic Paris Agreement. With the launch of the European Green Deal in 2019, the EU aims to become the first climate neutral economy globally by 2050. However, Europe remains the fastest-warming continent, and is, according to the European Environment Agency's 2024 assessment, not prepared for the rapidly growing climate risks it faces. What is the future of the European Green Deal after the 2024 European elections? How can the EU balance economic growth with the urgent need for climate action? How do we protect vulnerable groups, such as indigenous people from paying a disproportionately high price for the climate crisis? How can we ensure that the green transition is fair and inclusive? What is the EU doing to prevent greenwashing and false green claims?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**ENGAGE**

## **FROM STIGMA TO SUPPORT**

### **YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH IN EUROPE**

Europe is experiencing a youth mental health crisis with half of all young Europeans now reporting poor mental health. The COVID-19 pandemic already placed significant pressure on young people's mental health and the situation has intensified due to the crises encountered in recent years, including economic instability and geopolitical conflicts like the war in Ukraine. Meanwhile, social media is allowing youth to maintain friendships or engage with issues they care about, but also exposing them to bullying, threats and graphic reports of global problems. How can the EU address such issues? What are key factors impacting youth mental health? And how can we address inequality in mental health access? What is the connection between social media and mental health, and which tools can be used to improve the current situation?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**ENGAGE**

## **THE BIGGER THE BETTER?**

### **EXPANDING THE EUROPEAN UNION**

From six founding countries to twenty-seven Member States today, the European Union has significantly grown over the last 70 years. This success story was accompanied by the promotion of democratic and economic reforms in the new Member States, fostering greater stability and prosperity across the continent. As the EU considers the integration of nine current candidate countries, which one will be the next to join? What does the path from a candidate to an EU member look like? Is the European Union ready for the next enlargement? What about alternatives to full membership and what would the economic implications be? And what about the political and geopolitical consequences of a larger EU?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**ENGAGE**

## **NAVIGATING EUROPE'S DIGITAL FUTURE**

### **YOUTH, AI, AND HUMAN-MACHINE COLLABORATION**

The European Union is driving its digital future with initiatives like the Digital Europe Programme, which aims to improve the digitalisation of societies and economies across the Union. As Europe embraces new technologies, the European Parliament is working on laws like the AI Liability Directive to protect citizens from the risks that artificial intelligence might bring. With youth at the forefront of navigating the challenges and opportunities this digital transformation presents, how is Europe preparing them with the digital skills and infrastructure needed to succeed in a tech-driven world? What does the rise of AI mean for future job opportunities and the nature of work itself? As technology evolves, how do we balance human skills and machine capabilities? Are young people equipped to navigate these changes, and how can they influence the future of human-machine interaction? What challenges and opportunities will arise as humans and machines increasingly work side by side?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**ENGAGE**

## **AGRICULTURE IN THE EU**

### **WHAT IS ON TOMORROW'S MENU?**

Farmers in Europe have been grappling with a range of challenges in recent years: from extreme weather and rising temperatures to inflation sparked by the Covid-19 pandemic and the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. But also the pressure of soaring production costs or complex administrative requirements they are faced with. How can we build sustainable and resilient agriculture? What steps can we take to strengthen the position of farmers in the food supply chain? How do we ensure safe, affordable and high quality food for all citizens? Where are we at with the Farm to Fork Strategy? How do we keep the balance between environmental interests and economic necessities? How can the EU support small and medium-sized farms to stay competitive? And finally, what steps can we take to enhance biodiversity and reverse the degradation of ecosystems?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**ENGAGE**

## **CITY LIGHTS AND COUNTRY SIGHTS**

### **ADDRESSING YOUTH CHALLENGES**

Young Europeans face diverse challenges in both rural and urban settings. They navigate complex social dynamics and pressures while facing an ever-changing environment, affecting areas such as digital access, housing, climate resilience, and transport. What steps can bridge the digital divide between urban and rural areas? How can we tackle the housing crisis in both cities and the countryside? What are good examples of youth initiatives bringing life back to rural areas? How can EU policies such as the EU rural development policy or initiatives like the New European Bauhaus better incorporate sustainable and eco-friendly practices? What measures could mitigate the high levels of youth unemployment and homelessness in big urban areas?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**ENGAGE**

## **SKILLS OF TOMORROW**

### **ARE WE PREPARED FOR FUTURE CHALLENGES?**

New and changing environments present new challenges, which affect many areas of our everyday lives. To tackle these challenges and adapt to our surroundings, we need relevant skills. But which skills will be needed in the future? Which skills and competencies are essential to prepare us for the digital and green transitions? In a world that is becoming increasingly dependent on automation and AI, how can we foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills? How can we help young people acquire the right qualifications for high-quality jobs? How do we ensure fair, equitable, and inclusive access to new skill development? And how can existing European initiatives and policies promote relevant skills development for young people?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**ENGAGE**

## **PEACE IN EUROPE**

### **TOWARDS A NEW EU DEFENCE POLICY**

With Russia's invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 war has returned to Europe. The attack highlighted the need for close cooperation between the Member States, prompting the Union to respond with coordinated sanctions. Additionally, the growing geopolitical challenges of recent years have put security and defence issues in the spotlight of European politics. Will the European Union manage to speak and act as one in world affairs? After the US Presidential elections in 2024, what might the transatlantic cooperation look like in the years to come? How can a European defence policy be a successful complement to NATO? Where are we heading with the Strategic Compass and how will the common defence industrial policy shape up? How can the EU rapidly respond in a crisis? And what steps can we take to stay ahead of emerging threats?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**ENGAGE**



## **INVESTING IN EUROPE'S FUTURE?**

### **THE NEXT MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK**

In July 2025, the European Commission will propose a new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) to set spending limits for EU policy areas over several years. Members will examine how the EU's long-term budget can best meet citizens' needs and address key challenges. In what ways does the EU budget affect our daily lives? How should the EU budget be structured to effectively navigate current priorities and prepare for future challenges? How do we ensure the European Union remains competitive and innovative on the global stage? In what ways can the MFF contribute to achieving economic and social cohesion among EU Member States? How can the EU budget support a sustainable, climate-neutral and resilient future? And how can we ensure young people's needs are reflected in our spending priorities?

#### **PANEL DISCUSSION**

**ENGAGE**

## **GET INVOLVED IN THE IDEAS HUB!**

Located next to the Hemicycle, the Ideas Hub is a space designed to help you learn and engage with the legislative work of the European Parliament in creative ways. In the Ideas Development Corner, you can develop and work on the ideas for you think the European Parliament should be discussing and talk to youth organisations to find out what they are already doing. If you are seeking expert advice, you can visit the Expert Corner to discuss your ideas with EU officials, fine-tune them, and learn about relevant EU legislation and competencies. Want to share your ideas in a relaxed setting? The Networking and Chill-out Area is perfect for meeting other EYE participants and taking the conversation further. Finally, capture the moment in the Photo Area for a memorable souvenir! Want to discuss your ideas and connect with like-minded individuals? Eager to gain insights from experts and explore new opportunities? Want to share your perspective on current legislative files? Join us at the Ideas Hub to learn and engage further with the legislative process and find out how you can actively participate in shaping the future of Europe!

#### **ONGOING ACTIVITY**

**EMPOWER**

## **IN THE SHOES OF AN MEP**

### **MEET AND DISCUSS WITH EUROPEAN POLITICIANS**

A 30 minutes conversation with a Member of the European Parliament about everything to do with their role and the legislative process: What does their work look like? What do they do on a typical day? What are their favourite and least favourite aspects of the work?

Several sessions will take place during EYE2025, offering participants the opportunity to speak to different MEPs.

#### **Q&A**

**ENGAGE**



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*EUROPEAN YOUTH EVENT*



*EUROPARL\_EYE*



*EP\_EYE*