

***EYE2021***

***THE FUTURE IS OURS***  
***8-9 October***

**European Parliament**  
**Draft programme**



**#EYE2021**

The European Youth Event (**EYE2021**) will run virtual activities from 4 October, leading up to the main event on **8 and 9 October** 2021, offering a variety of **virtual, hybrid and in-person activities** in Strasbourg, co-created with partners, youth organisations and participants themselves.

Currently the EYE2021 programme features **30 activities** organised by European Parliament's services and other European institutions. These will be complemented by activities organised by EYE partners, other institutions, youth organisations and participants. The final version of the programme will be available in **September 2021**.

Activities will take place inside the **European Parliament building** and outside in the **EYE Village**.

As this edition is hybrid, we will have a rich set of activities taking place virtually on a **dedicated event platform**. More information will be soon available.

To help navigate through the programme each activity has one or more thematic tags:

**#ART #CULTURE #DEMOCRACY #DIGITAL #ECONOMY #EDUCATION #ENVIRONMENT #HEALTH #INNOVATION #MIGRATION #PARTICIPATION #RIGHTS #SECURITY #SOCIAL #SOCIETY #SUSTAINABILITY #WORK #WORLD**

Some of the activities have been grouped in two tracks:

#### **CONFERENCE TRACK**

The Conference on the Future of Europe Track will feature Conference-related activities organised by the European Parliament, partners and youth groups alike and gather ideas on the future of Europe.

#### **GREEN TRACK**

The Green Track will feature environment-related activities organised by the European Parliament, partners and youth groups alike and gather ideas in anticipation of COP26 in November 2021.

The Green Track is co-created with the EYE2021 Green Partner, *Generation Climate Europe*.

## **DIGITAL DEMOCRACIES**

### **THREAT OR OPPORTUNITY?**

Online propaganda, echo chambers, disinformation, bots, hate speech, data misuse, political polarisation. The impact of technology and especially social media on democracies has increasingly been painted as a doom and gloom scenario. Are algorithms defining public discourse? Does social media favour extremist content and fake news over facts? Who is influencing what I am influenced by? How is my data being used? Are democratic values undermined by technology? Or could virtual parliaments, online voting and consultation processes make for more democratic societies? Can e-democracy be a way to encourage more young people to make their voices heard? Is online participation a tool to lower boundaries and increase accessibility to public discourse? How can trust in democracies be safeguarded in the digital age?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**#DEMOCRACY #DIGITAL #PARTICIPATION**

## **FIGHTING DISCRIMINATION**

### **TOWARDS A MORE INCLUSIVE SOCIETY**

The shock wave that spread across the world after the murder of George Floyd has fortified the urge to fight discriminations. COVID-19 amplified already existing discriminations and structural inequalities as the pandemic affected all of us but not all of us equally. Domestic violence increased, women often fought underpaid at the forefront of the pandemic and in many countries minorities were disproportionately affected by COVID-19. How can we fight such structural inequalities and reduce discrimination? How are these inequalities related to each other? How can we ensure people are taken care of regardless of their gender, colour of skin, sexual orientation, age, religion, or ability? How can we celebrate differences that make us a vibrant and diverse society? How can we make our democratic societies more inclusive so each and everyone can reach their full potential?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**#CULTURE #RIGHTS #SOCIETY**

## **FUTURE OF WORK**

### **JOBS AND SKILLS AFTER COVID-19**

COVID-19 has significantly changed the way we work and study and how we think about meaningful and relevant careers. But it has also left some of us unemployed or with an income loss. Young people are disproportionately affected as the pandemic has disrupted their education and training, and made it harder to find a job and start a career. How has COVID-19 impacted young people and how can the EU help in solving the high youth unemployment rate in many Member States? How is the labour market looking now? What kind of jobs are meaningful, and what skills do we need? And what has changed about the way we work? Can we expect more flexibility now that companies and organisations have gotten used to teleworking or will we return to the classic 9-to-5 model?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**#EDUCATION #WORK**

Co-organised with Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

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

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

What does the life of a Member of the European Parliament look like? What do they do all day? How do they work? Whom do they listen to? How do they make the decisions that most affect you and your future? Why did they choose to run for the European Parliament? What do they think about the state of the EU? Or, about energy, or security, or the climate? If you have any questions for our elected officials, come and have a speed-date with a European policymaker. Ask them about issues that affect you and get the chance to tell them what you would like your future to look like!

**INTERVIEW**

**#DEMOCRACY #PARTICIPATION**

**SERIES OF SESSIONS PLANNED**

## **MIND THE GAP**

### **SOCIAL INEQUALITIES ON THE RISE?**

For the past decades, social inequalities have risen dramatically, increasing the gap between rich and poor. The COVID-19 pandemic has added to already existing economic disparities and showed us that the most essential jobs are often the most precarious ones. How can we guarantee a decent income for everyone? How can we address globalisation, technological change, skill mismatches and inadequate social and economic policies? Should we focus on redistributing existing wealth by taxing the rich, rather than relying on philanthropy? Is unconditional basic income a possible solution? What about young people whose future job opportunities are impaired by the economic crisis? How can we recover from this crisis with everyone on board?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**#ECONOMY #SOCIAL #WORK**

## **NEXT GENERATION EU**

### **ECONOMIC RECOVERY FROM COVID-19**

In July 2020, after a marathon meeting, EU leaders agreed on a budget and a COVID-19 recovery fund called Next Generation EU. This budget and recovery fund were called historic by decision-makers and newspapers alike. But what makes it historic? Is it the fact that the European Union will be able to borrow on the markets to finance Next Generation EU? What does that even mean, 'borrowing on the markets'? What's the role of the European Parliament in budget discussions? And what has the rule of law to do with it? What are the spending priorities of the EU? Are we spending enough money on things that matter to young people, like education and mobility programmes?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**#ECONOMY**

## **ON THE ROAD TO GLASGOW**

### **CLOSING OF THE GREEN TRACK**

In November 2021 the 26<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference will take place in Glasgow. What do young people want to see on the agenda? What are their most pressing concerns, demands and innovative ideas? Since Earth Day in April the EYE Green Track allowed young people to exchange their ideas in environment and climate change related activities organised by the European Parliament, their partners and youth groups alike. Join this closing session that is co-organised with UNRIC Brussels to reflect upon the best ideas gathered and exchange final ideas that will feed into the event's report!

**GREEN TRACK**

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**#ENVIRONMENT #PARTICIPATION #SUSTAINABILITY**

Co-organised with United Nations Regional Information Centre for Western Europe, Brussels

## **POST COVID-19**

### **UNITED IN HEALTH?**

More than a year after the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted life as we knew it, the world has a vaccine! Vaccines are one of the greatest public health achievements in history and have saved countless lives. However, in recent years, the anti-vaccine movement has received increased attention. How is the COVID-19 vaccine perceived so far? Are anti-vaccine movements and fake news affecting its general acceptance? How can public authorities, responsible for vaccination campaigns, counteract these tendencies and build trust among their citizens? Surely, the EU can play a role in this, especially since the pandemic has restarted the debate whether to give the EU a stronger role in the area of health. Is it time to finally build a genuine European Health Union and have a solid system that protects all European citizens?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**#HEALTH #SOCIETY**

## **THE OTHER CRISIS**

### **HAS THE CLIMATE AND NATURE CRISIS BEEN DROWNED OUT?**

While the world's attention has been monopolised by the COVID-19 pandemic, a more threatening crisis continues to unfold around us. In both cases, scientists are declaring a 'case of emergency' but it seems like decision-makers are focusing their attention on the Covid-19 pandemic. Can we still get off the current path towards 3-4°C increase in global temperatures that leads to food insecurity, droughts, mass extinction of species and that might facilitate future pandemics through biodiversity loss? How do we address the systemic causes of the climate crisis and rethink our economic system for a just and green transition? Who has the power and responsibility to interrupt this deadly status quo, is it the EU institutions, countries, corporations, consumers, or climate activists around the globe? How can the EU and the global efforts leading to COP26 help to refocus the world's attention to help nature and humans thrive together?

**GREEN TRACK**

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**#ENVIRONMENT #SUSTAINABILITY #WORLD**

Co-organised with EYE2021 green partner

ORGANISED BY:  
CONFERENCE AND VISITOR SERVICES UNIT (CVU), EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## EUROPE AND ITS PARLIAMENT IN 360°

Take a seat in our cinema and get a stunning 360° view of Europe and of its Parliament. After the movie, you will be guided around the interactive exhibition for a practical insight into the role of the European Parliament, its political groups and the work of its Members.

**MOVIE & TOUR**

**#DEMOCRACY #PARTICIPATION**

## THE PARLIAMENT ROLE-PLAY GAME BECOME AN MEP FOR HALF A DAY

Would you like to become a Member of the European Parliament for half a day and learn how the Parliament works, how legislation is discussed and voted on, and what stakeholders are involved in the legislative process? During this game, you will get to assume the role of an MEP to form alliances with other MEPs, to negotiate with other institutions of the European Union and to communicate with the media. All this in an innovative and interactive way! What are you waiting for?

**ROLE-PLAY GAME**

**#DEMOCRACY #PARTICIPATION**

ORGANISED BY:  
ECO-MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT SCHEME UNIT (EMAS), EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## THE SUSTAINABLE PARLIAMENT EXPERIENCE

Do you actually know the world you live in? Have you ever wondered how all of your daily consumption, mobility and travel choices impact the earth? Keen to find out what the European Parliament does to play its part in transitioning to a sustainable Europe, including by reducing its own CO2 emissions and plastic waste? Or excited to learn more about using the EU EMAS system to manage environmental impacts? Discover in an interactive way the epoch of the Anthropocene and what you can do to reduce your own ecological footprint. Come, take part in the Anthropocene quiz and join us at the EMAS discussion corner for inspiring talks on key environmental topics!

**GREEN TRACK**

**STAND**

**#ENVIRONMENT #SUSTAINABILITY**

*ORGANISED BY:  
HOUSE OF EUROPEAN HISTORY, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT*

## **SOCIAL MEDIA USERS OF ALL COUNTRIES, UNITE COMMUNICATION AND THE INFORMATION REVOLUTION**

We've all seen pictures of key moments in European history: people linking hands for the Baltic Way and the fall of the Berlin Wall. What role did communication technologies play in these historical events? What can we learn from the generations of the past? What inspiration can we draw from their actions? And how can we take what we learn from history with us in our daily lives? Can history teach us how to strengthen participation in democracy now? Join this session to challenge preconceived ideas, misconceptions and prejudices and learn how to critically analyse how you are reached by information!

**WORKSHOP**

**#DEMOCRACY #DIGITAL #PARTICIPATION**

*ORGANISED BY:  
UNIT FOR RELATIONS WITH AFRICA, THE CARIBBEAN AND THE PACIFIC, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT*

## **WHAT FUTURE FOR THE AFRICA - EU RELATIONSHIP?**

How can we achieve a partnership with Africa on equal grounds and go beyond development assistance? Join Members of the European Parliament for a frank debate. Do we continue to channel development assistance through the usual channels, using criteria we've used so far? Or do we need to radically rethink and let African countries pursue their own development recipes through free monetary and macroeconomic policy choices and protection of its nascent industrial sectors? Can both approaches be combined? How are the post-COVID 19 recoveries of Europe and Africa interlinked and interdependent?

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**#ECONOMY #WORLD**

*ORGANISED BY:  
WEBCOMMUNICATION UNIT, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT*

## **ACTIVISM FOR A DIGITAL ERA HOW TO FIGHT FOR CHANGE ONLINE**

Some things seem hard to change, yet young people are leading the drive for change across the world. They fight against rising temperatures, and for endangered species. They advocate for more healthcare preparedness and accessible mental health care. They champion expanding youth rights and tackling youth unemployment. But how can you make your voice heard in this crowded digital environment? Join this session to learn how you can become a leader and engage others for your cause. Watch and discuss with some of the most influential activists fighting to save our planet!

**GREEN TRACK**

**WORKSHOP**

**#DIGITAL #ENVIRONMENT #PARTICIPATION**

## **BRANDING YOUR DIGITAL SELF**

In the past few months, people had to exchange their school or work desks for their kitchen table and truly explore what it means to be digital. Did you find your digital self? And what did that look like on social media? Are you a GIF goddess or a ruler of Reels? Are you not sure yet but want to know more? Then come take a peek behind the curtain and see the faces working on the social media accounts of the Parliament! Strike a pose with our Instagram filter or Facebook frame, use a GIF from one of our followers and explore Facebook with one of our passionate Together.eu volunteers. Are you ready to use your social networks like a pro? Join this session and brand your digital self!

**STAND**

**#DIGITAL #PARTICIPATION**

*ORGANISED BY:  
WEBMASTER UNIT, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT*

## **CITIZEN APP 2.0**

### **HELP US DESIGN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT APP**

The European Parliament wants to update its Citizen app and we need your help! Launched in 2019, the app has not undergone any major changes yet. High time for an update! What do you already like about the app? What doesn't work? What features are missing? Come help build the Citizen app 2.0!

**STAND**

**#DIGITAL #PARTICIPATION**

*ORGANISED BY:  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION, EUROPEAN COMMISSION*

## **YOUR CAREER FINDER**

In the jungle of credentials, studies, training and volunteering activities, are you aware of all the skills and competences you have acquired? Can you sell them to a prospective employer? EU skills tools and policies can help you make sense of your skills and take the right next step. From learning to employment, attend this session to boost your career!

**WORKSHOP**

**#EDUCATION #WORK**

ORGANISED BY:

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SMES, EUROPEAN COMMISSION

## **YOU HAVE A GREAT BUSINESS IDEA?**

### **COME AND PITCH IT!**

Have you ever thought about going all-in with your business idea? Do you need some expert feedback? Join this session to pitch your business idea to a panel of experts. Get valuable feedback and perhaps win a prize! Up to seven finalists will be selected to pitch their idea live to the panel of business experts, coaches and investors. If you want to be one of them, register and you will be contacted about submitting the pitch for your business idea in due time. Otherwise, join to watch and learn!

**WORKSHOP**

**#INNOVATION #WORK**

ORGANISED BY:

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR JUSTICE AND CONSUMERS, EUROPEAN COMMISSION

## **FIGHTING DISINFORMATION AND POLITICAL**

## **MANIPULATION IN THE COVID-ERA AND BEYOND**

### **DIGITAL LITERACY WORKSHOP**

How can we make young people become the drivers of change in their communities? What role can young people play in combatting disinformation and misinformation? What new vulnerabilities has the rapid growth of online campaigning and online platforms opened up? How can media literacy help to maintain the integrity of elections, and protect the democratic process from disinformation and other manipulation? How can we counter disinformation and hate speech through education and training, to promote open political debates and an effective participation in society and democratic processes?

**WORKSHOP**

**#DIGITAL #EDUCATION #PARTICIPATION**

ORGANISED BY:

THE EUROPEAN PLATFORM ON LEARNING MOBILITY (EPLM) AND THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE IN THE FIELD OF YOUTH

## **LEARNING MOBILITY**

### **QUALITY AND ACCESS FOR ALL!**

More and more young people never sit still: with the exception of the COVID-19 pandemic, they learn everywhere, are mobile within their own countries, go on exchanges, volunteer or take part in capacity-building activities or trainings abroad or at home. But is access to learning mobility ensured for all? How do we make sure that their experience is not merely good, but great? How do we ensure quality in this process? And how do we ensure that their needs are taken care of, regardless of their situation? What about the inclusion of disadvantaged groups, minorities, or other young people at risk of exclusion? Join this activity to share your ideas and explore the European Platform on Learning Mobility's [Q!App](#) and [Handbook on quality in learning mobility](#).

**WORKSHOP**

**#EDUCATION #RIGHTS #SOCIAL**

ORGANISED BY:  
EUROPEAN YOUTH FOUNDATION, COUNCIL OF EUROPE

## **WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!**

### **FUNDING AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO YOUTH NGOS**

Wondering how to fundraise for that ground-breaking international event you have been dreaming about or for your innovative projects at local level? Wondering where to find operational funding for your organisation to run the activities you have planned for the year and to provide the best possible support to your members? Don't worry, we have what you are looking for! Join the European Youth Foundation to find out all you want to know about how to get funding and support for your youth organisation and your projects!

**WORKSHOP**

**#PARTICIPATION**

ORGANISED BY:  
YOUTH DEPARTMENT, COUNCIL OF EUROPE

## **LIVING LIBRARY**

### **DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER**

The Living Library works just like a normal library: visitors can browse the catalogue and borrow a Book for a limited period. The only difference is that in the Living Library, Books are people, and reading consists of a conversation. The Living Library attempts to challenge prejudice and discrimination by facilitating a conversation between a Living Book who shares an own experience of discrimination or social exclusion, and a Reader. Come and discover all Living books' stories!

**LIVING LIBRARY**

**#DEMOCRACY #RIGHTS #SOCIETY**

ORGANISED BY:  
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

## **THE FUTURE LOOKS...GREEN**

### **THE ROLE OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE EU COUNCIL IN THE GREEN TRANSITION**

What does it really take for our daily lives to become more sustainable? What are acts of "green" kindness and how can they make a real difference? What is the role for young people, how can they get involved instead of letting others decide for them? Join us for a debate with young influencers and entrepreneurs from the countries holding the current and upcoming Presidencies of the EU Council, express your own views and get short and practical tips on how we can all contribute to this green transition!

**GREEN TRACK**

**WORKSHOP**

**#DEMOCRACY #PARTICIPATION #SUSTAINABILITY**

ORGANISED BY:  
EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE (EESC)

## **OUR CLIMATE, OUR FUTURE!**

### **JOIN US IN THIS COP SIMULATION EXERCISE**

Climate change is on everyone's mind, and young people all over the globe are mobilizing to save the planet. The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) is joining the movement and is asking YOU for the best way forward to protect our planet. As a farmer, a developing nation, a clean tech company, how would you solve the current climate crisis? What should world leaders do? Is there a solution that could fit all sectors? Join this ultra-realistic international climate change conference (COP) simulation, step in the shoes of decision-makers and industry representatives, and try to work your way towards carbon neutrality!

**GREEN TRACK**

**ROLE-PLAY GAME**

**#EDUCATION #ENVIRONNEMENT #PARTICIPATION**

ORGANISED BY:  
EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN

## **TRANSPARENCY AND DEMOCRACY**

### **IN THE EU OF TOMORROW?**

### **MEET AND DISCUSS WITH THE EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN**

Have you heard of the European Ombudsman? It is an independent and impartial EU institution, whose role is to act as the EU's watchdog. The institution's mission is to create a more transparent, effective and accountable EU administration. But what does that mean for citizens and in particular for young people? And how does it work? Join this session to learn more about the European Ombudsman's mission and work, and how it can help young citizens resolve questions and complaints!

**WORKSHOP**

**#DEMOCRACY #RIGHTS**

ORGANISED BY:  
EUROPEAN DISABILITY FORUM – YOUTH COMMITTEE

## **INDEPENDENT LIVING**

### **SO BASIC AND YET SO IMPOSSIBLE**

Living independently is challenging for most young people, but for persons with disabilities it is even more so. We have to gain our independence. Over-protective parents, the difficulty to find accessible accommodation, financial instability, necessary services only being accessible in institutions.... These are but some of the barriers faced by young persons with disabilities. What is independent living? What are the challenges faced by young people with disabilities to become independent? What does the EU do to support independent living for persons with disabilities? Join us and find out! An engaging discussion is going to take place with young persons with disabilities, living independently or in residences and with a Member of the European Parliament who themselves has a disability.

**WORKSHOP**

**#HEALTH #RIGHTS #SOCIAL**

*ORGANISED BY:  
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL CIRCUS SCHOOLS (FEDEC)*

## **LIFE IS A CIRCUS**

Enjoy an artistic performance created and performed by students from renowned European circus schools. Keep an eye open: you may also spot them in the EYE Village doing unscripted performances and animations.

**PERFORMANCE**

**#ART**

*ORGANISED BY:  
GRAINE DE CIRQUE ASSOCIATION IN STRASBOURG*

## **WILL IT JUGGLE...**

### **OR WILL IT FALL?**

Do your fingers itch when you're holding an apple, an orange and a tangerine? Are you fascinated when you see people juggling with six balls at a time, without dropping any? If the answer is yes, come and learn to juggle with us at this workshop for beginners run by the Graine de Cirque Association in Strasbourg. Yes, you'll juggle, but not on your own! This workshop is designed to help break the ice: a chance to have fun meeting other EYE participants!

**WORKSHOP**

**#ART**

*ORGANISED BY:  
WORLD ORGANIZATION OF THE SCOUT MOVEMENT (WOSM)*

## **LET'S BUILD BACK A BETTER AND GREENER EUROPE**

### **WITH, FOR AND BY YOUNG PEOPLE**

Young people have been amongst the most affected by the Covid-19 pandemic due to their precarious socio-economic status. At the same time, they have been at the forefront of community relief through volunteering. Would it be fair to exclude them from the crucial conversation of rebuilding a greener Europe post-COVID-19? Would that even be achievable without the involvement of young people? How do we ensure a meaningful youth engagement in all recovery policies? How do we make sure that young people are perceived as key stakeholders in the equation and not mere beneficiaries of governmental aid?

**GREEN TRACK**

**WORKSHOP**

**#ENVIRONMENT #PARTICIPATION #SOCIAL**



***WWW.EYE2021.EU***



***EUROPEANYOUTHEVENT***



***@EUROPARL\_EYE***



***@EP\_EYE***