



Council of the  
European Union

041546/EU XXVI. GP  
Eingelangt am 08/11/18

Brussels, 8 November 2018  
(OR. en)

13942/18

LIMITE

JEUN 139  
EDUC 402  
SOC 677  
EMPL 511

#### NOTE

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

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No. prev. doc.: 13360/18

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Subject: European Union Youth Strategy 2019 - 2017: From vision to  
implementation  
- *Policy debate*  
*(Public debate in accordance with Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of  
Procedure [proposed by the Presidency])*

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Delegations will find attached a discussion paper on the "European Union Youth Strategy 2019-2027: From Vision to Implementation", as prepared by the Presidency in light of consultations with delegations.

The Committee of Permanent Representatives is invited to submit the attached discussion paper to Council (EYCS) as the basis for the policy debate that will take place at its meeting on 26-27 November 2018.

## **European Union Youth Strategy 2019-2027 – From Vision to Implementation**

- Presidency Discussion Paper -

EYCS Council (Youth) Policy debate (Brussels, 26 November 2018)

### **EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027**

After an intense and thorough process the EU Youth Strategy for the coming nine years is to be adopted. Under the coordinated leadership of the Presidency Trio Estonia, Bulgaria and Austria, in close cooperation with the European Commission, with the support and readiness for compromise of all Member States and valuable input from many stakeholders in the youth field, the Council is now in a position to adopt a new framework for an improved cooperation between EU countries in the youth field for the period 2019-27.

The main objective of the new draft framework on the Council's table today is to make the most of EU youth policy's potential by following a dual approach:

1. The resolution on the EU Youth Strategy calls for a cross-sectoral approach by mainstreaming youth as a priority amongst different policy areas and addressing the needs of young people at all levels of decision-making.
2. The resolution on the EU Youth Strategy aims to tackle core areas of the youth sector:
  - Engage: Fostering young people's participation in civic and democratic life
  - Connect: Connecting young people across the European Union and beyond to foster voluntary engagement, learning mobility, solidarity and intercultural understanding
  - Empower: Supporting youth empowerment, especially through quality, innovation and recognition of youth work

In addition, the European Youth Goals – developed in a participatory process which involved young people from all over Europe – provide a vision for young people in Europe. They can be seen as a source for orientation and inspiration for people closely involved in shaping and implementing youth policy and other youth-relevant policy areas.

## **Implementation of the EUYS**

The adoption of the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027 should be seen both as a cornerstone and as the beginning of a new process. When it comes to achieving the objectives outlined in the EU Youth Strategy, we should see this moment as the starting point for our cooperation in the youth field over the next years to come.

The draft EU Youth Strategy strives to support national, regional and local youth policy-making, and Member States should draw inspiration for their national Youth Strategies. Implementing the EU Youth Strategy at all levels is therefore crucial and can be seen as a shared responsibility between all relevant stakeholders.

The resolution invites the European Commission and EU Member States to take action in many fields. To effectively implement the EU Youth Strategy across the EU, several useful instruments have been developed. These instruments aim to encourage evidence-based youth policy-making and knowledge building, synergies and mutual learning between different Member States, participatory governance, a stronger link between policy priorities and funding mechanisms, improved monitoring of EU spending on youth, the creation of a new and positive narrative on EU youth policy and youth work, the engagement and political participation of young people, the further development of youth work, cross-sectoral cooperation, equal access to quality information and support, and progress monitoring.

The main instruments of the EU Youth Strategy are:

- the EU Youth Dialogue;
- the Future National Activities Planner;
- the EU Work Plan for Youth 2019-2021;
- a European Youth Coordinator.

## Guiding Questions

Assuming that the Council will adopt the Resolution at its Meeting on 26 November 2018, the Presidency would like to take the opportunity to launch an in-depth debate on different aspects related to the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy.

Ministers are therefore invited to exchange views and share their experiences in relation to the following questions<sup>1</sup>:

- 1. How can we use the instruments of the EU Youth Strategy adopted today in the most effective way in order to achieve the objectives set in the Strategy at the national, regional and local levels?**
  - 2. Which factors/measures could contribute to the effective implementation of the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027 in your country?**
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<sup>1</sup> In order to give all Ministers the opportunity to take the floor within the available time, the Presidency invites delegations to limit their interventions to a maximum of 3 minutes for both questions.