

ARCHIMEDES

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SALTO Participation & Information Newsletter

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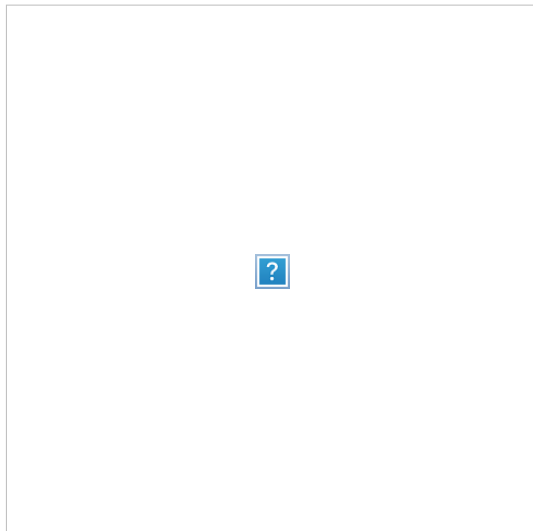
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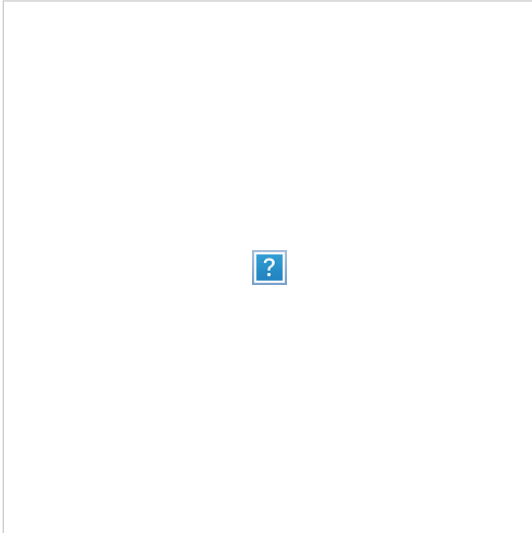
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SALTO Participation & Information Newsletter

Apply for a seminar on digital developments and youth participation!





On the 18–20 June SALTO PI will organise a seminar “eXploring Youth eParticipation” which will be exploring successful digital youth participation processes and ideas. Application round to join the event in Tallinn, Estonia is open till the 4th of May!

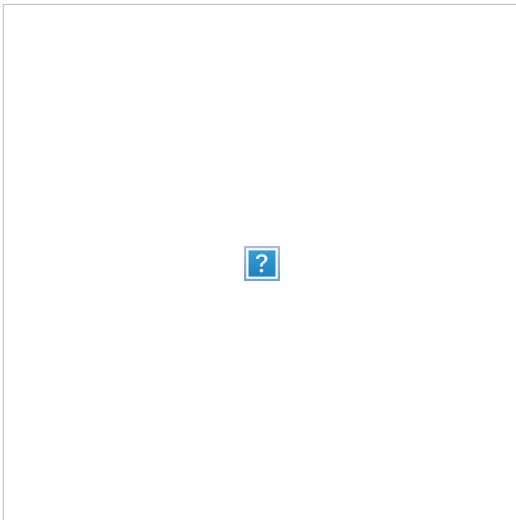
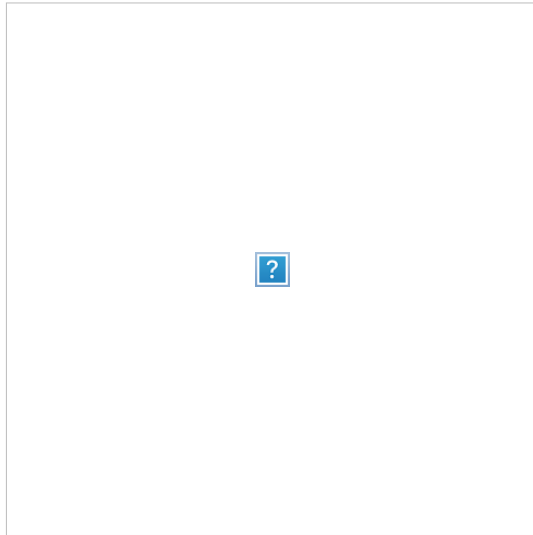
The seminar will dive into the world of young people’s eParticipation: explore what is it, how it can enhance opportunities and quality of youth participation and discuss the context around it. For example, how digital developments have and will change interaction and participation. We’ll also look into the challenges and opportunities around eParticipation; learn about practical tools and discover options for the future work. Participants will have the chance to gain basic skills and knowledge needed for successful youth eParticipation processes.

Some key words related to the seminar:

- big data
- local vs global participation
- offline vs online participation
- eParticipation tools and platforms
- liquid democracy
- eParticipation training and curriculum
- guidelines
- inspiration

Information about who is eligible to apply, how are the costs covered and the application form can be found [here](#).

A brand new Erasmus+ funding opportunity for international partnerships focusing on youth participation



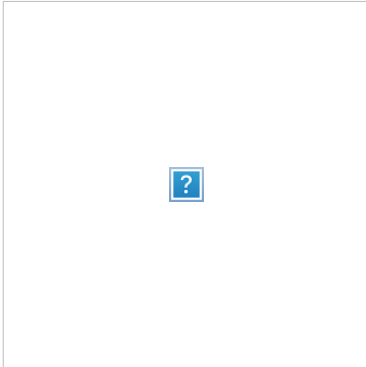
European Youth Together will support activities from at least five youth organisations from different regions spread across the EU's and Programme Countries to share their ideas about the EU values, encourage wider civic participation, explore their commonalities and help foster a sense of European citizenship.

Applications are managed centrally and the total budget for this initiative is five million euros. **Maximum grant per contract is 500 000 euros.**

This initiative aims to create networks promoting regional partnerships, which will run in close cooperation with young people from across Europe. The networks can organise exchanges, promote training and allow young people themselves to set up joint projects. **Deadline to submit proposals is 25 May.**

Read more about the initiative from [here](#).

Young People agree on eleven EU #YouthGoals



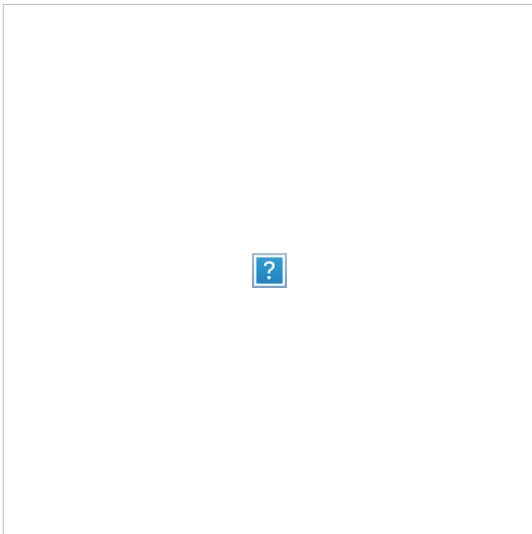
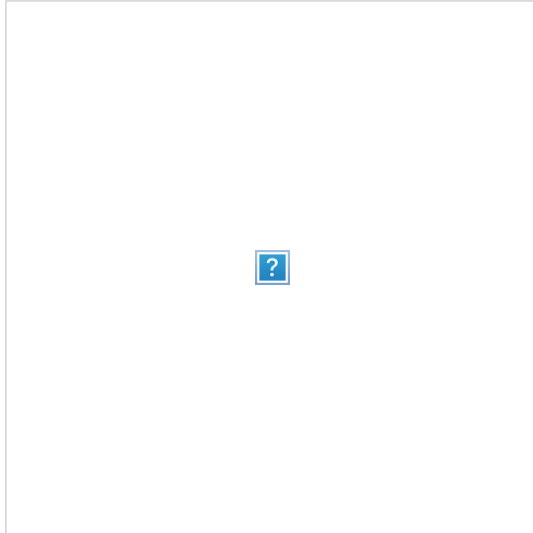
250 youth delegates and policy makers from all over Europe agreed on eleven youth goals for Europe at the EU Youth Conference in Sofia that took place this week.

The goals were a direct result of the 6th cycle of the structured dialogue consultations with about 50 000 young people from across the European continent and they represent young people's views on what the future of our society should look like.

They cover a broad range of topics, such as **gender equality, media, mental health and wellbeing and participation opportunities**. The creation of #YouthGoals was inspired by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and they will be presented to the EU decision-makers to inform the development of the new EU Youth Strategy.

Read about the #YouthGoals [here](#).

Should adults share their power with young people?



Experts from 16 different countries came together in Tallinn at the beginning of April for the very first meeting of the Think Tank on Youth Participation in Tallinn, Estonia. One of the main concerns expressed by the experts was the unwillingness of decision-makers and adults to share the power with young people.

The Think Tank was organised to advise SALTO PI, but not only.

“We didn’t bring all these people together only for shaping and advising our work at SALTO PI. The goal is also to map the problems that are not allowing young people to express themselves in a way that they would have a bigger say in decision making processes. We foresee that the Think Tank will also help us to work out and present solutions that could also be put into practice when it comes to European Union policies,” said **Martti Martinson**, the Coordinator of SALTO PI.

SALTO PI received over 200 applications from almost 50 countries to join the Think Tank. The selected experts come from very diverse backgrounds – amongst them are researchers, youth workers, youth activists, professors, youth leaders, policy makers etc.

“As practitioners and thinkers, the biggest threat is that we fail to innovate, to move with the changing ways that young people want to participate and their expectations of power in

decision-making. If we get stuck in the same models, same debate and offer the same structures, young people will walk away,” commented **Alex Farrow**, one of the thinkers and the facilitator of the event.

“At the think tank, we didn’t get stuck at the usual stumbling blocks – definitions, remit or types of participation. The challenges across Europe - for young people, participation and democracy - are severe; those attending were clear that the conversations have to move on. As champions for young people - and sometimes still young! - we didn’t relax in our comfort zone, but we still need to push ourselves into new conversations and directions,” he added.

Mathieu Orphanides from the European Commission adds: “The biggest challenges in youth participation currently are that in many parts of Europe, youth is generally disengaged for various reasons such as misinformation, concern for employment, culture, etc. Understanding and reacting to the different micro-segments within ‘youth’ (minorities, migrants, disabled youth, etc.) is a challenge we’re facing.”

He believes SALTO PI can help to handle these challenges by attracting and bringing together the various stakeholders, gather and filter information from diverse sources, assimilate it, and subsequently disseminate to the relevant parties.

“SALTO PI can contribute to the cycle, and create synergies and the links between the different programmes and EU youth policy,” he concluded.

The experts will continue working on SALTO PI’s main priority areas for youth participation.

The focus topics for SALTO PI are:

- 1) mainstreaming the concept of youth participation,
- 2) inclusive youth participation,
- 3) smart participation (incl. digital tools),
- 4) alternative forms and methods of youth participation
- 5) evidence-based and informed youth participation

The thinkers will continue their work in giving suggestions to SALTO PI with the aim to improve young people’s opportunities to be part of decisions.

Read more about the skills and area of expertise of the thinkers [here](#).

SALTO-YOUTH Participation & Information Resource Centre

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We are SALTO

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