# New EU youth programmes and cooperation in a changing context

Discuss what you would (not)like to see in new programs and how you would (not) like communication with NAs and SALTOs to be. This is time for sharing, reflection and inspiration while talking to each other and with colleagues from NAs and SALTO SEE! Do not forget – overall framework for discussion is cooperation between program countries and region of Western Balkans within E+ and ESC programs.

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# Inge's group

### Situation of new programes for the Balkans?

Ruard: Participation of Western Balkan countries participating in the Programmes is not that high, Challenge: quite some obstacles to participate, reduce the barriers, the Budget will stay about the same.

Kosovo: Only big organisations can apply for the WBW. Will there be a Change?

Ruard: At this Moment, I can't give you any News about that, but the critique is well known. But yes, we are thinking About gib ´ving more opportunities for smaller organisations.

Ruard: Do you have any recommendations to promote the Programmes?

Answer: It is really hard for smaller orgs to compete, as bigger organisations apply a lot or have the ressources.

# Flexibility through the Pandemie

Will there be more possibilities for blended mobilities online within KA1? Will there be a Funding?

Ruard: At this Moment, COM is busy with alternatives and widen the possibilites

# Access to digital means?

Are Young People adjusting to the Situation? Tools are there, but especially for marginalised Groups i.e. no clean water, Food, or education.

# Working with refugees?

# Maija's group

# For SALTO

More promotion of the Programmes in the Western Balkans – many organisations and young people still do not know about the opportunities the Programmes provide.

### General about the new programmes

-For the Programmes to be inclusive, the financial schemes should be more realistic

-Better definition by the Programmes of what is European identity and citizenship

-More flexibility within the funding schemes is needed for a better and faster response

-More emphasis on local level action (lower threshold to get engaged, reinforces youth participation)

-More emphasis on young people's participation in the project development

-More emphasis on community development

-Impact on the local communities should be ensured

-Better financial control mechanisms (there has been known misuse of funds)

-ESC target group should be widened from those who are already "convinced" to less privileged young people, who do not have so many opportunities for mobility and international / European cooperation.

-Peripheral areas in Europe (islands) lack feeling of belonging and face difficulties with the financial schemes (in particular the distance calculator)

-Digital youth work requires emphasis on competence development in this area

-young people's mental health should be in focus

-Young people's voices should be better heard (new or better mechanisms for that should be developed)

-Visa procedures should be better facilitated for those taking part in the European Programmes

-Cigna is not working well, complementary schemes are required at the moment

# Natasa's group

# for EACEA

More than 1 deadline for centralized applying for the Western Balkan Window

# Promotion

Promote the programme more in high schools; Start from schools.

Not only info days, but also trainings for young people, how to write the project for E+, how to deal with application.

Use role models in promotion of the Program

# Cooperation

- More cooperation between programme and partner countries.

- More cross sectoral cooperation

Support establishing partnerships between CSOs and public bodies (universities, high schools) in E+ projects

# Youth exchanges

- between high schools students and pupils

- between youth centers from local level

Create opportunity for cooperation between Partner and Program countries in the future E + Program

Launching of the call with an explicit focus on the strengthening of the cooperation between organizations from Erasmus+ program-countries and Erasmus+ partnercountries would improve the international cooperation between the organizations based in Western Balkans.

# Sandra's group

Entry point for new organisations

# Raise the accessibility of the Programme for small and grass-root youth organizations

## More support for youth workers

The backoffice, organisational and project work is often not recognized, while it implies a huge amount of time and effort... which is not paid, making it hard to join EU programmes.

# Expand the Programme to stakeholders from other sectors, especially for ESC

# Provide structural support to youth work

# **New organisations**

Support to new organisations with the form of project development support and -limited- funding.

# provide more support for local youth organisations and their activities

# More flexibility in the choice of lodging and hosting facility for youth exchanges (e.g. in households)

stop the trend of supporting large organisations and consortiums and leave some more space and funds in the program for small organisations activities

# THANK YOU ALL!!!

launching of the call with explicit focus

# Sonja's group

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### Accessibility to local NGOs

- to have a bit more of a mentoring/coaching relationship with SALTO during transitioning period until independency is achieved

#### **Issue with visa**

Especially for the countries/NGOs who are not among Programme Countries. Support for bridging the gap with Embassies.

# Crossing the border in post-COVID times

Support to NGOs to re-establish mobility

And to have a clear protocol how participants, young people and also directors of NGOs, trainers and support staff can cross borders. For example as a business or educational trip, and can receive a permission from the state authorities, like other businesses. In Slovenia, the ministry for economic development decides what is a business trip and not, there isn't a standard protocol. – SPELA TEZAK

#### Deadlines

Issues around prolonging the answer about the selection of projects (Spain) - administrative issues with NA

# Support between NGOs facilitated by NA/SALTO

Creating better network and platform to exchange of practices and experience – funds needed

### Simplifying approval procedures

#### Limitations in the use of E+

- lack of information to young people and youth NGOs about Erasmus+ and other Eu programmes

– it is still very unavailable in Bosnia and Herzegovina and effect is still low

- to have feeling that we (NGO and young people) are a part of the whole programme = to connect what we are talking about to individual young persons

- decreasing EU scepticism

### **Involve Youth Councils more**

to promote and support the access to the Programme
consultations

# Administration of the programme is not as flexible

- Programme itself is very flexible, but its adminstration/bureacracy is not

- It is important to seed mutual cooperation
- smaller funds with more simplified procedures
- opportunities for grassroot and small scale projects
- challenge for the insistution to handle small-scale projects

# Shaping the projects looking through all the parameters

- especially for the newcomers in E+/ESC
- quality process you are going through
- impact
- learn how to handle process in quality way

#### More than 1 deadline for WB

# **Qs for Ruard**

### By Nikola B.

Will the Erasmus + dedicate certain funds for online educations like it is for mobility activities and capacity building activities in the field of youth so far?

Will the Erasmus+ open new opportunities for WB countries? Do organisations from partner countries have more opportunities with the new Erasmus + programme? So far, the application has been limited, only once per year and the number of actions in which they can participate wasn't enough.