

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



# Carina Autengruber President of the European Youth Forum

2019 has been a year of transition and transformation. In Europe, the European Parliament elections brought a change in leaders, decision-makers and set new priorities for the future. In the midst of ongoing Brexit uncertainty, delayed policy processes at EU level and threats to the future of the Council of Europe's youth sector, the European Youth Forum has had to work harder than ever to make young people's voices heard where it matters most.

For us as an organisation, it has also been a year of change, reflection and growth. Throughout 2019, under the leadership of the newly elected Board, we successfully developed the European Youth Forum's future Strategic Plan. This document will be the cornerstone of the organisation's work for the next four years (2020-2023) and brings together the input and vision of all of our Member Organisations who took part in the discussions and who unanimously adopted it in November.

Strengthening the engagement of our membership and expanding our network continues to be at the heart of our work. The increasing interest from organisations to apply for membership of the Youth Forum reflects these efforts and we are excited to keep growing and diversifying.

In terms of our EU influence, our main achievements have been related to the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027; strengthening the voice of young people and youth organisations in key negotiations such as Erasmus, European Solidarity Corps and European Social Fund. This year we also launched our new publication, "The Future of Work", making us one of the leading Brussels voices emphasising the medium to long term impacts of the future of work, in terms of social and economic inclusion.

From the Change is Coming Roadshow around European cities, to being an organising partner of the Maastricht Debate as well as creating Youth Day events with Spitzenkandidaten, the Youth Forum effectively positioned itself as a leading voice representing young people throughout the election period. On top of these ambitious activities we succeeded once again in producing an outstanding Yo!Fest, this time as part of European Youth Week.

The European Youth Forum's visibility and reputation as a key stakeholder on youth is also being established beyond Europe. At the United Nations our work with Member Organisations in monitoring and reviewing the 2030 Agenda, in addition to fighting for youth inclusion in UN processes on topics such as sustainable development has resulted in successful cooperation with the UN and other partners.

The scale of the impact that young people have made this year around the world only goes to demonstrate that the sky is the limit when we are organised and work together for a common cause. I am incredibly proud of the daily work of our youth organisations, who do exactly that. They give a much needed space for young people to learn, be supported and fight for their rights. Now we need our parliaments, our institutions and our societies to do the same. We're ready to lead the way, make the next move and keep building on the momentum we've created.

Through channeling our demands, concerns, hopes and ideas into activism and working together, young people's voices are even stronger.

# Anna Widegren

# Secretary General of the European Youth Forum



I would like to thank all of you, for all of the hard work that comes from you as Members, what you bring, what you do, because without that, there is no European Youth Forum.

Without that, there is no youth movement. You are the ones on the ground, bringing the work forward in the national context.

It is truly inspiring. It is then what directs us to go out and make an impact together and actually change the world for the better by shaping the society that we want to live in and creating what we want to see.

(Words from closing speech at the Council of Members in Amiens, November 2019.)

# Highlights

### **JANUARY**

- Novi Sad European Youth Capital 2019 Opening Ceremony.
- European Parliament adopts its position on the European Social Fund Plus, asking for more funding for youth employment.

### **FEBRUARY**

- The Youth Forum takes part in the 57h Session of the UN Commission for Social Development and organised the "Youth Rights: time for action!" side event.
- The UN Commission for Social Development adopts a resolution on policies and programmes involving youth.

### MARCH

- European Elections 2019 campaign Roadshow begins.
   Cities visited in March: Amiens, Barcelona, Rome,
   Maribor and Cluj-Napoca.
- Successful audit of the 2018 accounts and of the UNHCR's European Youth Initiative Fund project.
- Development of Internal Prevention and Protection at Work Plans (5 year-long, annual).
- Launch the "Future of Work and Youth" report and our commitment to the ILO's Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth.
- Launch of the "youth organisations' contribution to the 2030 Agenda" report in Geneva.
- The Youth Forum organises the first ever youth pre-meeting to the UNECE Regional Forum for Sustainable Development.

### **APRIL**

- European Elections 2019 campaign Roadshow continues. Cities visited in April: Krakow and Berlin.
- Council of Members I-19 in Brussels.
- The European Youth Forum's Expert Working Group on Youth Rights is established.
- The Youth Forum co-organises the European Elections 2019 Debate in Maastricht.
- The Youth Forum speaks at the ECOSOC Youth Forum at the United Nations in New York.
- As part of the European Elections campaign, Yo!Fest 2019 kicks off in Brussels. The event connects with the European Youth Week, organised by the European Commission.

### MAY

- European Elections 2019 campaign continues leading up to the voting days. Young people went more to the polls with an increase from 28 to 42% of youth turnout.
- EU Youth Ministers adopt Council Conclusions on young people and the future of work.
- Last meeting of the European Apprentices Network (EAN) coordinated by the Youth Forum.

### **JUNE**

- European Parliament awards the grant to the Youth Forum to organise Yo!Fest @ the EYE 2020.
- The Youth Forum organises a Task Force on Youth and Social Rights and consultation on the Future of Work.
- The World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth takes place in Lisbon and the Lisboa +21 Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes is adopted.
- Launch of the interactive campaign "June 2030" on sustainable development.
- The 7th Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship takes place on the SDG16.

# Highlights

### **JULY**

**OCTOBER** 

Regions and Cities.

European Commission.

- The United Nations Human Rights Council adopts a Resolution on Youth and Human Rights.
- Development of the Youth Forum's Human Resource Strategy.
- Following our campaign with the Youth Intergroup, the European Parliament ban on unpaid internship takes effect.
- The Youth Forum takes part in the UN High Level political forum on Sustainable Development and launches the game June 2030.

European Youth Capital: Fostering European Identity

Hearings of the incumbent Commissioners of the

Among Young People event at the European Week of

### **AUGUST**

 United Nations Youth Delegates and United Nations Youth Delegates Programme Coordinators meeting.

### **SEPTEMBER**

- Board adopts the Youth Forum's four-year-long Fundraising Strategy.
- Podcast "Sorry We Killed It" launched.
- The 20th University on Youth and Development takes place in Mollina around the SDG16, adoption of the declaration at the COMEM-II-2019.
- Youth Forum campaigns together with members for climate action during the Global Week of Action.

### **NOVEMBER**

- European Youth Capital 2022 Award Ceremony -Tirana Awarded.
- Council of Members II-19 in Amiens. Member organisations adopt the Strategic Plan 2020-2013 and the Policy Paper on the Future of Work.
- The Youth Forum, the International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organisations, and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights co-organise the event "Mobilising the global youth movement #ForYouthRights".
- Launch of the campaign "#EuropeanLeadersProblems".
- The United Nations General Assembly adopts a resolution on policies and programmes involving youth.
- The Euro-Arab Youth Forum takes place in Budapest on the UNSCR2250.
- The Youth Forum organises a training for member organisations on economic system change.

### **DECEMBER**

Campaign "#EuropeanLeadersProblems" continues.



New Member
Organisations

276

External representations to events of Members, partners and other stakeholders



Incredible numbers

Survey 2019...

young people.

from the Membership

the Youth Forum reaches through our Membership:

6000 youth organisations.

directly to 40 million

Indirectly to over 150

million young people

5



Amazing numbers from the European Elections 2019 "Change is Coming" campaign:

**4 Youth Days** with European political parties.

**1 televised Maastricht Debate** between leading
Spitzenkandidaten from
European political parties.

**10 European cities** reached by "Change is Coming" Democracy Roadshow.

1 Yo!Fest for 2000 young participants in front of the European Parliament in Brussels.

**1.8 million people** reached on social media with our campaign

12



Policy documents & publications

54



kg of coffee consumed in the office of the Youth Forum

82,000
Visitors to our website

www.youthforum.org



1,700,000



impressions on Twitter

2029

Financial documents

149,000

Facebook followers



### **INSTITUTIONS**

In 2019 our institutional engagement continued.

At the EU level, legislative discussions were slowing down as we were gearing up for the European elections. As the Youth Forum, we set a priority to engage more young people and bring our messages in the campaign. As a result, we increased attention to issues that matter to young people and saw an increased turnout, up to 42%! Beyond that, we kept engaging in the negotiations around the EU long term budget and also ensuring that the new European Commission was ready to work for youth.

The work of the Youth Forum with the Council of Europe has mainly included actions and engagements of member organisations in the campaign to preserve the youth sector of the organisation. We prevailed, the budget was saved! Furthermore, the Youth Forum has continued our participation in the statutory bodies of the organisation, as well as in key political processes, including the drafting group of the Youth Agenda 2030.

Globally, at the United Nations, we continued to bring attention to the importance of youth rights, with multiple missions together with our Member Organisations. We also brought a lot of evidence about the contributions of youth organisations to the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

### **YOUTH RIGHTS**

In 2019, we made efforts to bring attention to youth rights at the United Nations level, both in New York and Geneva. A key achievement was the adoption by the Human Rights Council of a resolution calling for age-based discrimination to be tackled, and more meaningful participation of youth organisations in policy making.

Building on previous work, we established an Expert Working Group on Youth Rights and worked together with our Member Organisations to engage in the Universal Periodic Review, deliver training, and organise lobby missions to Geneva.

Moreover, we brought together more than 20 representatives from Regional Youth Platforms and International Youth NGO, and OHCHR officers working at national, regional and global level, for a 3-day event. Participants shared their respective experience

advocating for young people, and started planning joint next steps to build a truly a global movement for youth rights.

### STRONG YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

In 2019, we have continued our work to ensure that the voice of youth organisations has been meaningfully represented in the discussions around the next Erasmus and European Solidarity Corps programmes.

With the kicking off of the negotiations, we have worked with the co-legislators to ensure that our concerns are well tackled. Our positions on volunteering and on the European Solidarity Corps have been also presented in the European Commission Expert Group on Mobility of Young Volunteers.

Youth work recognition has been one of our main priorities in the contribution towards the European Youth Work Convention 2020.

We continued to advocate for increased participation of youth organisations by strengthening the Network on Youth and Global citizenship and the Universities that were held on the topic of peaceful and inclusive societies.

"Youth, Peace and Security" was high on the political agenda, after being promoted during the ECOSOC Youth Forum and being a priority topic brought by the European Union to the United Nations General Assembly. We continued to work on the Security Council resolution 2250 through reporting on the advancement of its implementation of the resolution.

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The European Youth Forum is increasingly being recognised as a stakeholder in responding to the climate crisis and for sustainable development. The Youth Forum was extremely visible during high level meetings such as the High-Level Political Forum in New York, voicing the concerns of young people to Ministers and Heads of States.

Our reputation also allowed us to contribute to exclusive and closed door meetings such as 2030 Working Party meeting and interact with Commissioners as one of only about 30 organisations in the Multi-stakeholder Platform on the Implementation of the Sustainable

Development Goals in Europe.

Continuously looking for potential new initiatives, we co-organised the first ever youth pre-meeting to the Regional Forum for Sustainable Development, enabling dozens of young people across Europe to challenge their governments to do more to ensure the wellbeing of young people and future generations.

Besides our advocacy, we also empowered young people to become active themselves. We launched a toolkit for youth organisations on how to get involved in the 2030 Agenda and organised a training on economic system change.

### **SOCIAL & ECONOMIC INCLUSION**

The European Youth Forum placed ourselves as a key stakeholder in the debate on the changing nature of work, including through the publication of our report, "The Future of Work and Youth", the adoption of our Policy Paper on the Future of Work and by sharing advocacy messages at a number of high level events at EU and UN level.

It continued promoting young people's access to social rights and the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, discussing these issues at the UN ECOSOC Youth Forum and UN Commission for Social Development. Seeking to work on more specific social rights in the future, we organised a one-off Task Force on Youth and Social Rights to consult with our Member Organisations.

As part of our work on transitions from education to employment, the Youth Forum continued to support the work of the European Apprentices Network and facilitated the participation of the network's members at the Youth Citizen's Dialogue in Sibiu.

Finally, we also continued our work on influencing the negotiations of the EU Budget, advocating for greater funding for tackling youth poverty and social exclusion, and in particular for the implementation of the Youth Guarantee.

### **PARTICIPATION**

The EU Youth Strategy came into force on January 1, 2019 and since then a number of implementation tools have been put in place.

Future National Activities Planners (FNAPs) have started to apply at the national level

and by the end of the year most Most of the Member States submitted FNAPs. Youth organisations have been involved in the process. Moreover, the EU Youth Strategy Platform was also launched in 2019 and we ensured a good participation of member organisations.

As part of the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy we have continued to work on the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy and we have been shaping the process despite a number of challenges faced on this regard.

Through the UN Youth Delegates meeting continuing our work supporting European UN Youth Delegates to help them prepare for the UN general Assembly and be a united voice of youth representatives. At the same time the best practices meeting of UN Youth Delegates Programme coordinators took place to contribute to our work on improving the quality of youth representation and participation in institutions.

### **EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL**

The European Youth Capital initiative continued to grow with more and more municipalities discovering the title as a tool to #YouthUp their cities: 2022 edition witnessed an increased number of applications from cities interested to obtain the title.

The Youth Forum has been putting a lot of effort to spread the word about the European Youth Capital title in relevant spaces and raise awareness among institutional stakeholders. The European Youth Capital: Fostering European Identity Among Young People event at the European Week of Regions and Cities gave us a great opportunity to present European Youth Capitals of 2019, 2020 and 2021 to key institutional stakeholders and municipalities attending the Week.

Novi Sad European Youth Capital 2019 made it loud and clear that the year is about young people with hundreds of events and important policy processes taking place. The Youth Forum took part in several events happening in Novi Sad and was happy to support the implementation of the year.

The European Youth Capital 2022 Award Ceremony hosted by Amiens European Youth Capital 2020 not only awarded Tirana as the European Youth Capital 2022 but also had an address from the French President Emmanuel Macron.



Full Member **82**Candidate Members **22**Observer Members **3** 

### **FULL MEMBERS**

### **National Youth Councils**

Allianssi (NYC Finland) BYC (NYC United Kingdom)
CGJL (NYC Luxembourg) CJE (NYC Spain) CNAJEP (NYC
France) CNJ (NYC Portugal) CNJC (NYC Catalonia) CNTM
(NYC Moldova) CRDM (NYC Czech Republic) CTR (NYC
Romania) CYC (NYC Cyprus) DNK (NYC Germany) DNYC
(NYC Netherlands) DUF (NYC Denmark) ENL (NYC Estonia)
ESYN (NYC Greece) FDJ (NYC Belgium (FR)) CNG (NYC
Italy)KNZ (NYC Malta) KOMS (NYC Serbia) LIJOT (NYC
Lithuania) LJP (NYC Latvia) LNU (NYC Norway) LSU (NYC
Sweden) LUF (NYC Iceland) MMH (NYC Croatia) MSS
(NYC Slovenia) NAYORA (NYC Azerbaijan) NCYOG (NYC
Georgia) NYCA (NYC Armenia) NYCI (NYC Ireland) NYCR
(NYC Russia) NYF (NYC Bulgaria) ÖJV (NYC Austria) PROM
(NYC Poland) RADA (NYC Belarus) RMS (NYC Slovakia) VJR
(NYC Belgium (NL)) NCYM-FYROM (NYC FYROM)

### **International Youth Organisations**

ACTIVE (Sobriety, Friendship and Peace) AEGEE (European Students' Forum) ALLIANCE (Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations) ATD-Quart Monde (All Together in Dignity Fourth World / International Movement ATD Fourth World) DEMYC (Democrat Youth Community of Europe) EBCO (European Bureau for conscientious objection) ECYC (European Confederation of Youth Clubs) EDS (European Democrat Students) EEE-YFU (European Educational Exchanges - Youth For Understanding) EFIL (European Federation for Intercultural Learning) ESU (The European Students' Union) ESN (Erasmus Student Network) ETUC Youth (European Trade Union Confederation - Youth) EUDY (European Union of the Deaf Youth)

EUJS (European Union of Jewish Students) EYCE (Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe) FIMCAP (International Federation of Catholic Parochial Youth Movements)
FYEG (Federation of Young European Greens) IFLRY (International Federation of Liberal Youth) IFMSA (International Federation of Medical Students' Associations)
IFM-SEI (International Falcon Movement - Socialist Educational International) IGLYO (International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Youth and Student
Organisation) IUSY (International Union of Socialist Youth) IYNF (International Young Naturefriends) IECI-MIEC (International Young Catholic Students - International
Movement of Catholic Students) JEF Europe (Young European Federalists) LYMEC (European Liberal Youth) MIJARC Europe (International Movement of Catholic
Agricultural and Rural Youth) OBESSU (Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions) RYE (Rural Youth Europe) SCI (The Association of Service Civil
International) TEJO (Tutmonda Esperantista Junulara Organizo) WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts) WOSM (World Organization of the Scout
Movement (European Scout Region)) YEE (Youth and Environment Europe) Y-E-N (Youth of European Nationalities) YEPP (Youth of the European Peoples Party) YES
(Young European Socialists) YEU (Youth for Exchange and Understanding) YMCA Europe (Young Men's Christian Association) YWCAs (Young Women's Christian
Association)

### **CANDIDATE MEMBERS**

**National Youth Councils** 

**NYCUkraine** (NYC Ukraine)

**International Youth Organisations** 

CESI Youth (European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions Youth) FLARE (Freedom, Legality and Rights in Europe (until November))

### **OBSERVER MEMBERS**

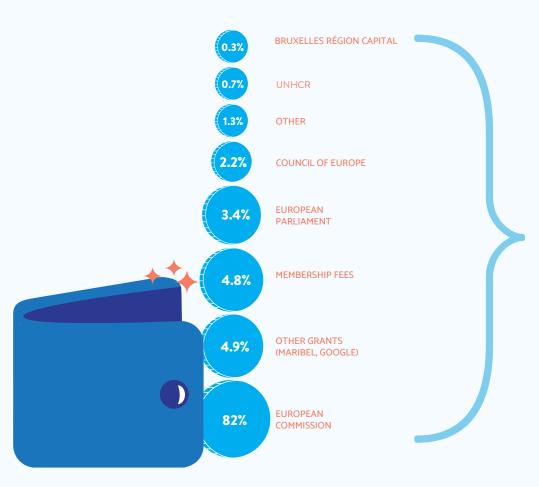
**National Youth Councils** 

GoFor (NYC Turkey) NIT (NYC Hungary) RdJ (NYC Belgium (DE))

### **International Youth Organisations**

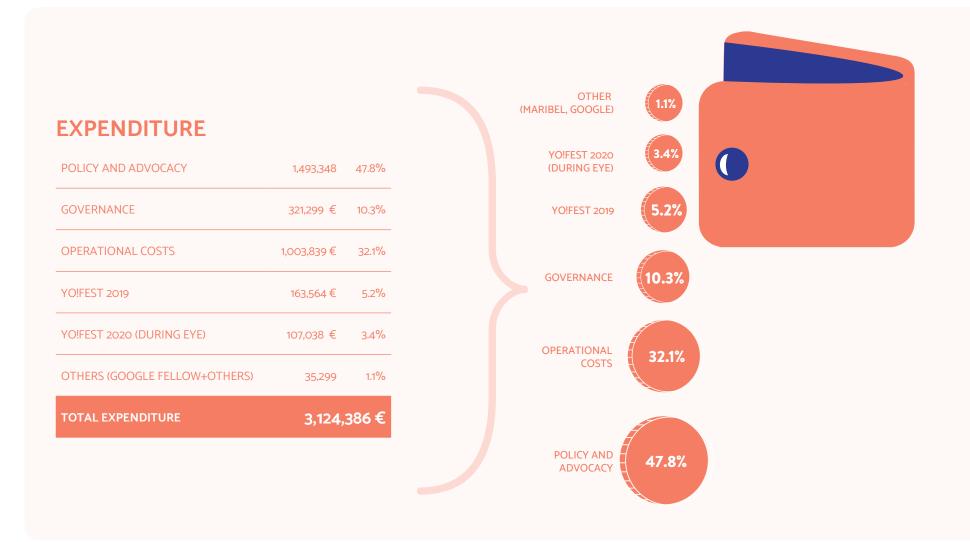
BEST (Board of European Students of Technology) CEJA (European Council of Young Farmers) CISV (Children's International Summer Villages) DBYN (Don Bosco Youth-Net) EGEA (European Geography Association) EFAy (European Free Alliance Youth) ENGSO Youth (European Non Gouvernemental Sport Organisation Youth) EYP (European Youth Press Network of Young Media Makers) FICEMEA (International Federation of Training Centres for the Promotion of Progressive Education) IAF (The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Foundation) ICYCW (International Cordination of Young Christian Workers) IDEA (International Debate Education Association) IFHOHYP (International Federation of Hard of Hearing Young People) Jeune (Young Entrepreneurs Organization of the European Union) JCI (Junior Chamber International Europe) JMI (Jeunesses Musicales International) Pax Christi (Pax Christi International) RCY (Red Cross Red Crescent European Youth Network (Red Cross Youth)) YDE (Young Democrats for Europe)





# **INCOME** Grants

TOTAL INCOME 3,111,469 €		
OTHERS	41,570 €	1.3%
MEMBERSHIP FEES	150,172 €	4.9%
OTHER INCOME AND PARTNERSHIPS		
OTHER GRANTS (MARIBEL, GOOGLE)	151,975 €	4.9%
COUNCIL OF EUROPE	70.000€	2.2%
UNHCR	22,684 €	0,7%
BRUXELLES RÉGION CAPITAL	8,000	0,3%
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	107,038€	3.4%
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	2,560,030 €	82.2%



## **BOARD**



Carina Autengruber President



**Tina Hočevar** Vice President



Ville Majamaa Vice President



Andrea Casamenti Board Member



Benjamin Günther
Board Member



**Jovana Majstorovic**Board Member



Silja Markkula Board Member



Rosalyn Old Board Member



Frédéric Piccavet
Board Member



Michael Piccinino
Board Member



Loes Rutten Board Member

### **SECRETARY GENERAL OFFICE**



**Anna Widengren** Secretary General





**Irene Miguelsanz** Villanueva



Ivana Davidovska

### **OPERATIONS & FINANCE**



Sandra Moreau Operations & Finance Director



**Eszter Somogyi** 



**Estefania Asorey** ICT / Statutory meetings



Marie-Aimée Musanase Human Resources Coordinator



Sarah Jane Schlögel Office Manager & Accountant Assistant



Laila Baraz Accountant Until September

### **COMMUNICATIONS & EVENTS**



Nanna Moe



Josh Cope



Loïc Marszalek Communications Team Leader April-September



**Anne Debrabandere** Translator/



Inès Abbas



**Marissa Miller** 



**Sheridan Powell** May-August



### **POLICY & ADVOCACY**



François Balate Policy & Advocacy Director



Alfonso Aliberti Policy & Advocacy Team Leader



**Stephanie Beecroft** Policy & Advocacy Team Leaderr



**John Lisney** Policy & Advocacy Coordinator Until November



**Una Clarke EU Institutions Coordinator** Until July



**George-Konstantinos** Charonis Senior Policy Officer *Until May* 



Flavia Colonnese Policy Officer/ Senior Policy Officer Promoted in December



**Manuel Gil** Policy Officer Until August



William Hayward Policy Officer From November



Rita Jonusaite Policy Officer



**Judit Lantai** Policy Officer From October



Jan Mayrhofer Policy Officer







Policy Officer





Līva Vikmane Policy Officer



Aleksandra Kluczka Campaign Officer Until July



Maëlle Quevillard Google Fellow January-June

# Our people

### FINANCIAL CONTROL COMMISSION (FCC)

Simon Devos-Chernova

Enrico Pulieri

Pia Winstén

### **CONSULTATIVE BODY ON MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS (CBMA)**

Adam Smuga

Teo Comet

Christiana Xenofontos

Vladimir Vasilev

### **POOL OF EXPERTS AND TRAINERS (POET)**

### **TRAINERS**

Amal Hamich

Maya Doneva NYF

Dragana Jovanovska YEU

Matej Manevski NYCM FYROM

Marija Pantelic Alliance

Amanda Reisach OBESSU

Milosh Ristovski JEF

Jorge Sanchez Hernandez AEGEE

Marinela Sumanjski YEU

Steve Borg KNZ-Malta

Clara Giberga SCI

Anne Peeters

Monika Skadborg ESU

Tanya Lyubimova IFLRY

Peter Noomi EFIL

Hannah Graham FYEG

Judit Lantai (Until October)

### **EXPERTS**

Igor Ciurea

Valentin Dupouey

Adam Elsod

Ilaria Esposito

Lana Pasic

Elin Lilijenbladh

Eliza Popper

Tamara Gojkovic

Tea Jarc

Wout Van Caimere