



# Shaping the future of Macro Regional Strategies and Interreg programmes – Youth involvement

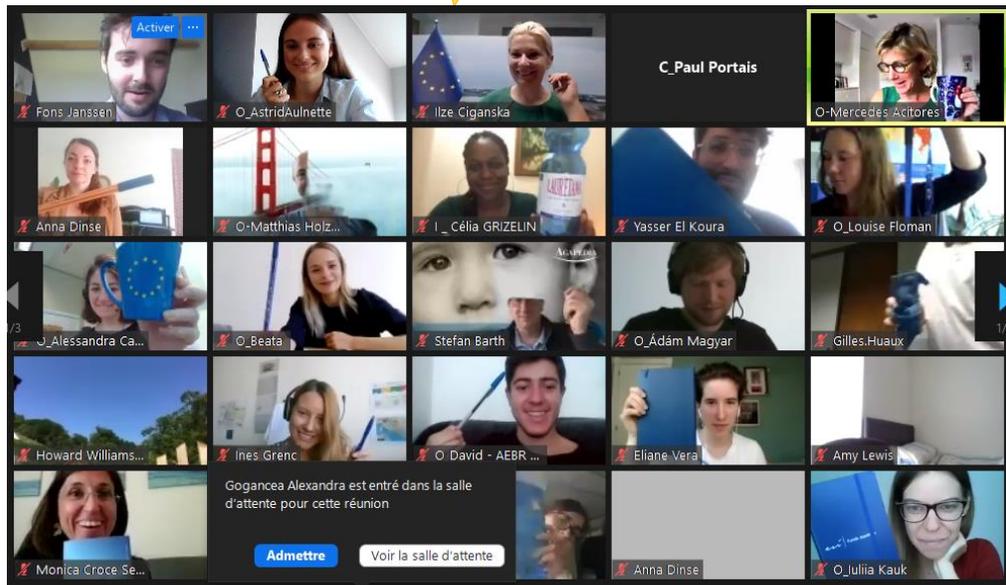
*Manifesto for Young People by Young People to Shape the  
European Cooperation Policy*

*European Commission – Directorate General for Regional & Urban Policy (DG REGIO)*

# A Manifesto for young people by young people



Presented  
to policy  
makers



- Digital Event
- Personal interviews
- Targeted surveys

12 recommendations



# 5 fields of Actions where Interreg and Macro Regional Strategies can match Youth's needs

1

**European Cooperation & Youth Involvement**



**#YouthManifesto**

Young people **want to be actively involved in decision-making**

Interreg/Macro-Regional Strategies should:

- ▶ finance more “people-to-people” projects as a way to involve smaller associations and citizens
- ▶ systematically include young people in their events & meetings



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2

**European Cooperation & Digitalisation**



**#YouthManifesto**

Young people want a **more digitally attractive access to information**

Interreg/Macro-Regional Strategies should:

- ▶ use a more simple and catchy language using appropriate digital tools
- ▶ launch more youth-oriented & more easily accessible project calls



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# 5 fields of Actions where Interreg and Macro Regional Strategies can match Youth's needs

3



## European Cooperation & Employment

### #YouthManifesto

Young people want a **fair access to decent employment opportunities**

Interreg/Macro-Regional Strategies should:

- ▶ better communicate on projects supporting youth employment
- ▶ help sponsoring job opportunities across borders



4



## European cooperation & education

### #YouthManifesto

Young people want **equal opportunities to learn new skills**

Interreg/Macro-Regional Strategies should:

- ▶ offer intercultural learning opportunities for language skills & social inclusion
- ▶ ensure a proper recognition of skills



# 5 fields of Actions where Interreg and Macro Regional Strategies can match Youth's needs

5

## European Cooperation & Climate Change



**#YouthManifesto**

Young people want **authorities to take climate change seriously and act**

Interreg/Macro-Regional Strategies should:

- ▶ avoid physical meetings to reduce CO2 impact
- ▶ track the carbon footprint of their activities and find ways to compensate

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# Actions done so far from EC's side

✓ Systematic involvement of young people in EC organised or co-organised events

✓ Elaboration of a MOOC on Interreg and MRS – should be delivered in 2022

Involvement in the European Year of Youth (2022)

✓ Monthly meetings with the core-group of Manifesto drafters

✓ Technical Assistance for youth related projects in MRS

Monitoring Interreg 2021-2027 PO and MRS presidencies' work programme

✓ “Tick the boxes – Coop with youth” sent out to programmes and macro regional Strategies

✓ Creation of a communication toolkit

# What have our stakeholders already done?

✓ Systematic involvement of young people in MRS Annual Fora

✓ EUSALP creation of a Youth Council

✓ Communication campaign towards young people

✓ Involvement of Interreg Volunteer Youth in the 2021-2027 programmes drafting

## And still to be done...

Labelled initiatives for the European Year of Youth 2022

Targeted calls for young people with simpler rules in the 2021-2027 period

Opening Monitoring committees to you people for example

# What can you do ?

- ✓ Promote and share the Manifesto with your partners

[https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/information/publications/brochures/2020/manifesto-to-for-young-people-by-young-people-to-shape-the-european-cooperation-policy](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/brochures/2020/manifesto-to-for-young-people-by-young-people-to-shape-the-european-cooperation-policy)

- ✓ Connecting the dots between mainstream and Interreg programmes for youth actions

- ✓ Embed in any communication campaign towards young people cooperation component : *you can use and abuse of our communication toolkit !*

# Preparing together 2022 : European Year of Youth

- Youth task force to support MRS & Interreg programmes
- Interact / TESIM / AEBR / DG REGIO
- Long term vision : Conference on the Future of Europe what EUSAIR can bring ?

- Tirana Youth Capital in 2022
- Youth4Regions : aspiring journalists (call to be launched in april 2022)
- Political Dialogue (more details to come in nov 2022).
- Good example of regions that bring back hopme young people

- Road Show
- Publications
- #Youth4Coop Summit in Autumn 2022
- Labeled Interreg and MRS youth projects

# Thank you

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