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# The EU-Turkey Fellowship Guide in the field of Youth and Sustainable Development

FOR CIVIL SOCIETY  
ORGANIZATIONS

2022





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This project is funded by the European Union.

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# INTRODUCTION

This guide was produced within the project named "Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development" in the scope of the Civil Society Support Programme III between the EU and Turkey. It aims to give practical information on the EU accession process and cooperation between the EU and Turkey; the content of this guide is addressed to Civil Society Organizations in Turkey and the EU to learn more about the EU accession process and available funds and opportunities to get engaged and contribute to the EU-Turkey cooperation in the field of Youth and Sustainable Development.





# ***WHAT IS THE IPA PROGRAM?***

From January 2007 onwards, the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) replaces a series of European Union programs and financial instruments for candidate countries or potential candidate countries.

As Turkey is an official candidate for EU accession, the EU supports political and economic reforms in the country with financial and technical help through the IPA program.



**IPA 2021 - 2027 / IPA III**

# ***About Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development***

The "Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development" project is financed by European Union and the Central Finance and Contracts Unit (CFCU) which is the contracting authority in Turkey. The project has been implemented within the scope of the Civil Society Support Programme-III (CSSP-III) and started on 1 April 2021, and will be lasted 15 months."

The project builds mutual and sustainable cooperation between youth organizations from the EU and Turkey through raising cohesion policy-making skills and ensuring a positive attitude towards the bilateral partners in the frame of EU - Turkey.







# The Consortium of policy coherence for sustainable development

## lead applicant

- Fundacja Europejski Instytut Outsourcingu (FEIO) / Poland 

## Co applicants

- Povod Institute for Culture and the Development of International Relations in Culture (POVOD) / Slovenia 
- Istanbul Culture and Sports Association (IKOS) / Turkey 
- Development Center Association of Individuals with Disabilities and Their Families (EBAGEM) / Turkey 
- Gaziantep Education and Youth Association (GEGED) / Turkey 

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# ***THE EU-TURKEY COOPERATION***



Albeit not officially part of the European Union, Turkey is one of the EU'S main partners and both are members of the European Union-Turkey Customs Union. Turkey borders two EU member states, Bulgaria and Greece.

Turkey is negotiating its accession to the European Union (EU) as a member state, following its application to become a full member of the European Economic Community (EEC), the predecessor of the EU, on 14 April 1987.

Turkey signed a Customs Union agreement with the EU in 1995 and was officially recognized as a candidate for full membership on 12 December 1999, at the Helsinki Summit of the European Council. Negotiations for full membership were started on 3 October 2005. In 2022, Turkey is still a candidate to become a member of the EU.

To access the EU, Turkey shall fulfill the Copenhagen criteria-which stipulate that candidate countries have institutions that guarantee democracy, the rule of law, and human rights as well as a well-functioning market economy.

[\*\*For More Information\*\*](#)



# Turkey's youth policies in the EU accession process

Youth and youth policy are important elements of public policies in Turkey. Youth has been addressed in more detail with the establishment of the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

Turkey has the highest proportion of young people compared to the European population as a whole, with almost 50% of the population under the age of 30, of which about half are aged between 14 and 29.

The legal document that sets the framework for youth policy in Turkey is the Youth and Sports Policy Document. It outlines the main areas of Turkey's national youth policy, which are: education and lifelong learning, family, ethics and humanitarian values, employment, entrepreneurship, and vocational training, disadvantaged young people and social inclusion, health and environment, democratic participation and civic consciousness, culture and art, science and technology, young people in the international arena and intercultural dialogue, utilizing free time, informing young people, voluntary work and mobility. The objectives of Turkey's youth policy coincide with the European Union Youth Strategy and the commonly agreed objectives of the European Union.



**Find More on  
Youth WIKI**



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**The National  
Youth and  
Sports  
document**



# ***THE EU-TURKEY COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT***

- Turkey was one of the first countries to conduct a voluntary national review on the Sustainable Development Goals in 2016. There is active cooperation between the EU and Turkey on climate action due to the climate crises happening in the region. Climate cooperation in achieving the Paris agreement is vital for both sides.
- EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) has participated in the Agreement signed between the Republic of Turkey and the European Union. EaSI was implemented to promote quality and sustainable employment, guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection, combating social exclusion, and improving working conditions.
- Turkey is among the top beneficiaries of the European Solidarity Corps (ESC) EU Programme, targeting youth. The Government expressed interest in renewing participation in the ESC in the 2021-2027 period. Between 2014 and 2020, under Erasmus+, 2 320 youth mobility and volunteering projects piloted by Turkish organizations were selected for EUR 51.1 million. In 2020, there were 283 youth chosen projects for EUR 9.5 million.

# Youth policies for Sustainable development in the EU

Youth programmes have been running since 1988. The policy was based on the 2001 White Paper (New Impetus for European Youth). Youth policy aims to create the conditions for learning, opportunities and experiences that provide and enable young people to develop their knowledge, skills and competences. This is to enable them to integrate into society, in particular to play an active role in civil society and the labor market. In January 2020, the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers adopted the Youth Sector Strategy 2030.

**The European Youth Goals** are a collection of 11 interlinked goals representing young people's vision for youth policy in the European Union; they were developed during the 6th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue and included in **the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027**.



**2022 is the European Year of Youth**

# OPPORTUNITIES AND GOOD PRACTICES

9 Youth In Sustainable Development

10 Horizon Europe

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15 The EU research and innovation program

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# YOUTH IN THE SDGS

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a total of 169 targets, were adopted in 2015. More than one-third of SDG targets reference young people explicitly or implicitly, with a focus on empowerment, participation, and/or well-being. There are **20 youth-specific targets** spread over six key SDGs: **Goal 2 (hunger)**, **Goal 4 (education)**, **Goal 5 (gender equality)**, **Goal 8 (decent work)**, **Goal 10 (inequality)**, and **Goal 13 (climate change)**.



## YOUTH GOALS

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore.





1

## ***BE THE VOICE OF YOUR PEOPLE***

- Determining the needs of your target groups
- Sort similar needs under the same heading
- Choosing one or two main needs for the Project
- You should work with your teammate

2

## ***KNOW THE OPPORTUNITIES***

- You should read the Programme guide.
- You should answer all questions in the application form.
- Your answer should be clear and understandable to everyone.

3

## ***BUILD SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS***

- To broaden NGO professionals' horizon to benefit from those kind of programs,
- To create a team who can develop, implement and create projects, -
- To have a creative vision for NGOs
- Create new networks at EU level

**Inclusion by Design - Inclusion  
strategies for NGOs**

# ***HORIZON EUROPE 2021-2027***

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation with a budget of €95.5 billion. It tackles climate change, helps to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth. The programme facilitates collaboration and strengthens the impact of research and innovation in developing, supporting and implementing EU policies while tackling global challenges. It supports creating and better dispersing of excellent knowledge and technologies.

As of 22 September 2021, the following countries have successfully concluded the formal negotiations for an association with Horizon Europe: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Kosovo\*, Serbia, **Turkey**, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine. In the case of Ukraine, also the negotiations for the association with the Euratom Research and Training Programme have been successfully closed.

**+INFO**

## **Example of Research Program**

**Funding  
& Tenders**

**Find the National  
contact Points in  
Turkey**



# Town Twining between Turkey and the EU

The overall objective of the program is To increase administrative capacity at the local level in Turkey's EU Accession process. In line with this objective, the purpose of the project is To create sustainable structures for exchange between local authorities in Turkey and EU Member States in areas relevant for EU Accession.

**Twining for  
a Green  
future**

- **TuSenet Municipal Partnership Networks**

# ***EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS***

The European Solidarity Corps aims to promote social inclusion, tolerance, human rights, and the value of differences and diversity of all kinds and to provide all young people equal access to opportunities offered under its Actions. The Corps provides accessible and flexible formats of activities, additional financial support as well as a range of support measures (e.g. general and language training, insurance, support before and after solidarity activities, administrative assistance) to encourage the participation of young people with fewer opportunities and better cater for their specific needs. When designing their projects and activities, organizations should have an inclusive approach and make use of the available mechanisms to involve a diverse range of participants. The European Solidarity Corps should also support projects and activities actively addressing the issue of inclusion and diversity more broadly in society.

## **European Solidarity Corps 2022 Call**

# THE EIDHR IN TURKEY

The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) provides direct financial support to Civil Society Organisations to stimulate the development and consolidation of democracy, the rule of law, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. In Turkey, the EIDHR has funded projects for freedom of expression and independent media, strengthening human rights defenders, improved access to justice, the fight against torture and impunity, protection and respect of cultural diversity, minority rights, human rights education, gender equality, LGBTI, Roma, and youth



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## GOOD EXAMPLE "YAN YANA"



YanYana (Side by Side) - PsychoSocial Support Project for Syrian Refugee Children. The project was carried out in 2017-2018 by the Bir iz Community Mental Health Association, in cooperation with the YUVA Association and Game Therapies Association in the province of Istanbul.

+INFO

Advices



More Examples

# Erasmus +

Erasmus+ is the EU's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. It has an estimated budget of €26.2 billion. This is nearly double the funding compared to its predecessor programme (2014-2020). The 2021-2027 programme places a strong focus on social inclusion, the green and digital transitions, and promoting young people's participation in democratic life. It supports priorities and activities set out in the European Education Area, Digital Education Action Plan and the European Skills Agenda. The programme also supports the European Pillar of Social Rights and implements the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027 to develop the European dimension in sport.

Opportunities Erasmus+ offers mobility and cooperation opportunities in higher education vocational education and training school education (including early childhood education and care) adult education youth and sport.

**Examples:**    **Le Gang Creatif**    **Life After Sports**    **Delete Digital Bullying!**  
**PlayIN'clusive** **Women Empowerment in Sport**    **Dialogue for Non-Formal Education**



# Le Gang Créatif

Le Gang créatif is an exchange of practice between workers in the Social and Solidarity economy on the theme of creativity. This 18-month project is already conceived as a source of curiosity, innovation and the exchange of good practice.



It is a strategic partnership in the field of adult education.







## ***LIFE AFTER SPORT***

"Life after Sports" aims to develop an innovative programme to support dual careers that facilitates an optimal combination of high-quality training and education to young athletes using face-to-face workshops.

The Programme targets athletes between 15-18 years old, special critical age in which sport and professional transitions take place. More than 150 semi-professional athletes from 6 countries were directly involved in the pilot programme.





# ***DELETE DIGITAL BULLYING!***

The general aim of the project is to start new cooperation in the field of youth at the European level for combatting cyberbullying, creating new training methods and content and expanding them to protect young people from cyberbullying, raising the awareness for creating new aid strategies when young people or their acquaintances face cyberbullying.

Youth workers /youth trainers, youth, and local people in Karabuk/Turkey raised awareness on cyberbullying, how to combat it, how to use safe internet, how to protect ourselves and others, and what the mechanism to support the people who face cyberbullying.

The program resulted in new methods/tools for youth trainers/youth workers being developed to raise awareness among society about cyberbullying.



**There are always feelings behind the screen Online  
campaign against cyber bullying created by Erasmus +**



# PlayIN'clusive

PlayIN'clusive is a 26-month-long strategic partnership project initiated by young people which aims to promote the importance of gamification within youth work across Europe through developing innovative games for quality improvement of non-formal education in one of the most relevant and up-to-date topics of the field: inclusion. The aim of the project is to develop innovative outputs to foster inclusion in European societies through strengthened competencies of groups of young people by allowing them to put their ideas into action and create innovative educational tools, especially games for youth and other educational sectors using the non-formal methodology. Project Partners are AC Amics de la Biblioteca de la Fonteta (Spain), Yaygın Eğitim Merkezi Derneği (Turkey) and Tudatos Ifjúságért Alapítvány (Hungary).

+INFO



**8** DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH



# Women Empowerment in Sport

"Women Empowerment in Sport" is an approved Erasmus+ Sport Small Collaborative Partnership project co-financed under Erasmus+ Program by the European Commission. It aims to empower young women through sports who are between 15-24 years old and struggling with a lack of motivation in their societies. Timeline: 01.01.2019 - 31.12.2019.

The program aimed to establish strategic cooperation among sports organizations and civil society organizations because exchanging know-how in the operational and methodological capacities provides more inclusive insights for sport-related strategy plans and cooperation arrangements.



# Peer to Peer training for Mothers with Special Kids

This project aimed to raise the awareness of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, signed by European countries and Turkey. It consisted of the following stages: -Conducting the training courses for target groups (relatives, caregivers, assistants) to increase their engagement with public services. -Increasing the capacity of NGOs working with individuals with disability and their families on adult education and methods. -Supporting the development of tools and education methods The program was financed under Erasmus+ Adult Education KA2 - Strategic Partnership Program between 1.10.2017 and 30.09.2019.





# EU reSearch and innovation programs

Turkey participates in EU reSearch and innovation programs Since 2003. Turkey has launched already 2004 the Turkish ReSearch Area (TARAL) - modeled on the European ReSearch Area (ERA). In this field, Turkey made good progress notably in the ERA Priorities related to e-infrastructures, open data, and gender mainstreaming in reSearch. In 2019, Turkey launched a Series of measures that led to the establishment of an Action Plan to boost the national reSearch and innovation capacity as well as cooperation with and alignment with the European ReSearch Area. This Action Plan led to a tangible and very positive impact on Turkey's participation in Horizon 2020. Turkey has made steady progress in Horizon 2020 being particularly successful in the European ReSearch Council, in Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, and in the area of Energy reSearch. Turkey became a fully associated member of Horizon Europe in January 2021.

**Stories of particularly successful EU-funded reSearch projects involving Turkey.**

# Global Europe Human Rights and Democracy 2021 - 2027

The Global Europe Human Rights and Democracy programme for the period 2021-2027, which complements further support at the bilateral and regional level, is the EU's flagship tool for action to advance human rights and democracy, including addressing the impact of global challenges, such as climate change and environmental degradation, digital and new technologies, or the COVID-19 pandemic. The programme can support activities in any country outside the EU and at the global level. It, therefore, complements other EU programmes at local, country, and regional levels.

- Protecting and empowering individuals - €704 million
- Building resilient, inclusive and democratic societies - €463 million
- Promoting a global system for human rights and democracy - €144 million
  - Safeguarding fundamental freedoms - €195 million
  - Delivering by working together - €6.6 million



## Protecting and empowering individuals - €704 million

Uphold all human rights, including by working towards the universal abolition of the death penalty, the eradication of torture and cruel and inhumane treatment, the fulfilment of basic needs, decent working conditions, the eradication of child labour, and a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment. The programme will promote equality, inclusion and respect for diversity, support human rights defenders and counter shrinking space for civil society, and strengthen the rule of law, ensure a fair and effective administration of justice, and close the accountability gap.

# Building resilient, inclusive and democratic societies - €463 million

The program supports functioning pluralist, participatory and representative democracies, and protects the integrity of electoral processes. It will, for instance, engage civil society observers in election observation and support pro-democracy organizations, networks, and alliances.

# Promoting a global system for human rights and democracy - €144 million

Enhance strategic partnerships with key actors, such as the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the International Criminal Court (ICC), regional human rights systems, national human rights institutions, the private sector, and the Global Campus of Human Rights.

## Safeguarding fundamental freedoms, including harnessing the opportunities and addressing the challenges of digital and new technologies - €195 million

Create and maintain an environment conducive to the full exercise of all fundamental freedoms both offline and online. For example, it will help strengthen the capacity of independent, pluralistic and quality media, including investigative journalists, bloggers and fact-checkers, to provide the public with reliable information through responsible and professional reporting. It will support civil society in fostering online media literacy and digital skills and in promoting an open, global, free and secure internet equally accessible to all.

# Delivering by working together - €6.6 million

The earmarked funds can support the civil society in engaging with national authorities within the framework of the human rights dialogues that the EU conducts with partner countries, or finance training, studies, or exchanges of best practice. It underpins all of the activities. In the first year of implementation, the EU will focus on promoting a global system for human rights and democracy. For example, in 2022-2024, the EU will support the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with €16 million, the Global Campus of Human Rights with €10 million, and the International Criminal Court with €3 million. The EU will also support in 2022 the launch of a Team Europe Democracy initiative to reinforce the impact of EU and Member States' global support to democracy. The 2021 action plan complements a number of urgent individual measures under the programme adopted earlier.





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# Best wishes from the Consortium of Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development

