

YOUTH CAPITAL TO YOUTH CAPITAL

Inspiring, Sharing, Learning



Project “Youth Capital to Youth Capital: Inspiring, Sharing, Learning”

is cofunded by the Erasmus + program under KA2 – Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices – Strategic Partnerships for Youth

Partner organizations of the project:

Agência DNA Cascais - Cascais Um Concelho Empreendedor

Asociatia Grupul PONT

Fundação Bracara Augusta

Mladinski kulturni center Maribor

Omilos UNESCO Neon Thessalonikis

Youth Capital to Youth Capital is developed under the framework of the European Youth Capitals and it will directly facilitate the improvement of the quality of youth work in Europe by supporting the european aspect of the work developed by the European Youth Capitals at local level.

DNA.
CASCAIS



PONT



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Youth are an engine of local development economies. Through youth engagement, communities and cities can do a better job of creating the services, opportunities, and supports that young people need. Through youth engagement we can, better prepare young people, to be active citizens in a democracy.

Youth participation and youth engagement is a winning solution, considering that young people will benefit by gaining skills, knowledge, self-esteem, and connectedness, adults will enhance their competencies, learning to better understand and value youth, civil society organizations will improve their programs and communities will improve their quality of life, coordinating youth services, and authentically embracing diversity by representing young people.

It is important to engage youth in regional policy development, because they can contribute through their knowledge, experience and commitment and they are the most affected by the main subjects and they can share that knowledge in the first person, expressing the changes that directly affect them.

Only through their involvement we can create a better commitment of themselves and they have a fundamental role in connecting with local communities and those socially excluded.

The involvement of young people in developing youth policies and in decision making is fundamental to increase the sense of belonging and active citizenship of young people to their communities and regions

The national youth policy is of utmost importance, because it's through a comprehensive and youth driven policy that young people are ensured meaningful participation in program or project design and development. Youth policy is part of a broader global policy of citizens' participation in public life and all sectoral policies should have a youth dimension.

The title of European Youth Capital brings, to the title owners an opportunity to position "Youth" and Youth Policies on the top of the agenda of the city during, at least, one year.

This Handbook is the result of an Erasmus plus project, developed under the framework of the European Youth Capitals and intends to share practices developed by some previous European Youth Capital and inspire other cities that intend to apply for EYC in the future.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The yearly award of **European Youth Capital** provides title holders an opportunity to present and share their existing initiatives and also to improve their programmes and policies for and by young people on different levels.

The project aims to achieve a more cohesive and empowered Network of European Youth Capitals (past, present and future) that can act as multipliers within their countries and Europe.

“Youth Capital to Youth Capital” is developed under the framework of the European Youth Capitals and it will directly facilitate the improvement of the quality of youth work in Europe by supporting the European aspect of the work of EYCs at local level.

During 18 months (September, 2017 to February, 2019), organizations from **PORTUGAL, SLOVENIA, ROMANIA** and **GREECE**, will implement activities that will enable future applicants and title holders to access best practices and exemplary projects that will improve the implementation of youth work as title holders of the EYC award.

However, the project go beyond the Network of EYC by inspiring and motivating other municipalities to proceed and address quality of their youth work, based on good examples shown by EYC.

The project intended to facilitate the sharing and exchanging of best practices between Youth Capitals to ensure that whilst the title of European Youth Capital is duly transferred from city to city so are the lessons and knowledge associated with it.

A transnational approach is paramount in identifying common and different practices across the capitals in terms of successfully rooting European values and youth programs on local level and transferring lessons learned at the grass roots to shape national youth policies.

In order for Europe to gain maximally from the best practices of previous European Youth Capitals, it is important that these practices are shared and exchanged in an international environment as they can then be optimized and replicated in the future, creating strong, enabled, capable and competent European Youth Capitals.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

- The exchange of best practices and lessons learned amongst past, present and future European Youth Capitals
- Identifying and analyzing successful approaches and projects developed by past European Youth Capitals in order to understand the structures implemented to achieve this and therefore their applicability in other Youth Capitals;
- Capacity building of practitioners within the partner cities to strengthen and ensure outstanding outputs and implementation of activities related to the awarded title of European Youth Capital;
- Assessing the impact of and current link between activities locally carried out within the framework of the award and youth programs at national and European level;
- Developing a handbook including the outcomes of the knowledge transfer between the Youth Capitals, showcasing strategies and recommended successful practices that will support future title holding cities in the improvement of the quality of their youth programs.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

DNA CASCAIS is an entrepreneurship agency promoted by the municipality of Cascais that aims to contribute to the promotion, encouragement and development of local entrepreneurship. Since 2006, DNA Cascais developed the project Entrepreneurial Schools that aims to develop new attitudes, entrepreneurial competences, among the young people.

- www.dnacascais.pt

MLADINSKI KULTURNI CENTER MARIBOR is a public institute, founded in 1993 by the Municipality of Maribor. When the project European Youth Capital Maribor 2013 ended, the Youth Cultural Centre Maribor took its legacy from the Municipality of Maribor and is now taking care for its sustainable effects and projects. The mission of the Youth Cultural Centre Maribor is to offer young people the opportunity, to use their ingenuity and initiative, and with our help gain a broad spectrum of knowledge and experience that will be good sustenance on the journey to the adult world.

- www.mkc.si

OMILOS UNESCO NEON THESSALONIKIS is a youth NGO, under the Greek National UNESCO Committee. Since 2004 UNESCO Youth Club focus on youth participation and education initiatives based on the UNESCO priorities. Topics like employment, social inclusion of young people, active citizenship, non formal education and of course voluntarism are our main activities in local, regional and European level. The organisation is a member of the Greek National Youth Council and the International UNESCO Youth Network and was responsible for the implementation of Thessaloniki 2014.

- www.unescoyouth.gr

PONT GROUP is a non profit organization, initiator and coordinator of the proposal for the European Youth Capital 2015 title on behalf of Cluj-Napoca. PONT Group was actively involved in the preparation process of the European Youth Capital 2015 year, working on institutional relations, setting the general strategic framework and the monitoring system for the Youth@Cluj-Napoca 2015.

- www.pontgroup.org

FUNDAÇÃO BRACARA AUGUSTA was nominated by the City of Braga as the managing body of Braga EYC 2012. Braga EYC2012 was global social experiment to engage young people in the co-creation and development of the City of Braga and resulted on several material and immaterial legacy for the City of Braga and future generations. Actually FBA is managing an Information Youth Centre with National relevance, Network of Lojas Europa Jovem – Youth Europe store and work on the implementation of a European Youth Centre in the City of Braga, Euro-atlantic Youth Centre.

- www.juventude.cm-braga.pt

ABOUT THE PROJECT

PROJECT MEETING

23 - 25 NOV 2017



Cascais, Portugal

SEMINAR

22 - 26 JAN 2018



Cascais, Portugal

PROJECT MEETING

19 - 23 JUN 2018



Thessaloniki, Greece

TRAINING COURSE

24 - 28 OCT 2018



Braga, Portugal

FINAL CONFERENCE

11 - 16 DEC 2018



Cascais, Portugal

PROJECT MEETING

27 - 30 JAN 2019



Maribor, Slovenia

EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL

Strengthening european youth policy at the local level



EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL TITLE

It was at the Council of Members of the European Youth Forum in November 2007 in Brussels, Belgium, through the adoption of the “Resolution on an annual European Youth Capital” that the European Youth Forum officially launched the European Youth Capital (EYC) process.

Youth leaders from all across Europe considered the need for a strengthened attention to **European youth policy at the local level** and direct contact between European institutions and local decision-makers, as well as the need to encourage cities working hand in hand with young people to both continue and expand the implementation of new ideas and innovative projects with regard to the active participation of young people in society.

After more than ten years since the start of the initiative, the European Youth Capital title

continues its efforts to ensure that young people are at the core of decision-making processes through the creation of sustainable local level youth participation mechanisms and structures. The title brings an opportunity for cities to use innovative ways to **raise up the voices of young people** and bring a new youth perspective to all aspects of a city life: engaging and including young people in conversations about public transport, infrastructure, environment, culture and education, economic and political life and others.

The European Youth Capital title aims to **support youth organizations and to contribute to increasing quality of youth work at local level** for stronger and bigger youth civil society sector all across Europe.

The title encourages cities to invest in young people and through supporting young people in accessing their civil, political, economic and social rights to build a more inclusive Europe.

The European Youth Capital title also tries to **better connect local and European levels** by contributing to implementation of European (youth) policies at local level fostering European values and European identity among young people in the Capitals and beyond their borders.

The European Youth Capital title is a way to support both young people and the cities to open up the possibilities for creating cities that are better for young people and lead the way for other European municipalities to follow; and to achieve this by using the transformative energy of young people.

What is the EYC title?

The “European Youth Capital” (EYC) is a title awarded by the European Youth Forum (YFJ) to a European municipality for a period of one year. It is designed to empower young people, boost youth participation and strengthen European identity.

Each year, a new European city is given the chance to showcase its innovative ideas, projects and activities that aim to raise up young voices and bring a new youth perspective to all aspects of city life.

From public transport and infrastructure, to cultural and educational programs and democratic policy-making, the European Youth Capital title invites cities across the continent to rethink how they engage with and include young people.

It is crucial that young people have equal opportunity to shape the social, economic and political life of where they live. The European Youth Capital initiative aims to support both young people and the city to open up these possibilities and lead the way for other European municipalities to follow.



APPLY TO BE A EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO:

- ✔ Recognize and Reinforce the work done in the youth sector
- ✔ Create bridges between different actors: (Municipality + Youth CSO; Organizations and Work with Young people; Youth Programs and Local Cities)
- ✔ Local Development and contribute to local economy
- ✔ Prioritize Youth Policies
- ✔ Inspire young people to have an active participation
- ✔ Get a good knowledge of good practices and international networking in the youth sector
- ✔ Build a new perspective for youth in the city
- ✔ Develop new instruments to develop and empower the youth sector
- ✔ Framework for accelerated innovation related to youth
- ✔ City Rebranding
- ✔ Political Capital (Reward and Recognition)
- ✔ Opportunity for a strategical and professional positioning for youth workers
- ✔ Create and strength the connection with EU Dimension
- ✔ Capacity building for the sector
- ✔ Opportunity to share a vision for a city
- ✔ Reinforce the Social Cohesion and bring Positive Stories



MEASURING THE IMPACT OF EYC

The impact of one EYC can have different perspectives and ways, according with beginning point and to aims of each city/municipality.

The political and society vision could get very distinct directions between the capitals. It's not linear that all capitals shall be the same aims to achievement. For some cities EYC could mean the opportunity to attract more youngsters to participate in the local community and in the political decisions, and for other Capitals EYC's could get a perfect situation, to promote more this region to abroad, their tourism visibility, to try approach more Erasmus students to their local universities and to push their local economy, in the way to create more employments.

INDICATORS THAT CAN SUPPORT YOU TO MEASURE THE IMPAC

BUDGET

Planned vs Received ✓ Total Grant ✓ Indirect Funding ✓ Different Sources (Projects; Private; Public – National and International) ✓ Money Spent by Participant ✓ Return on Investment ✓ Economic Impact

PROGRAM

Proposed Projects (NGO; Municipality/ Department; Youth; Companies; National Government; International NGO) ✓ Realized Projects (Management structure) ✓ Failed Projects ✓ Evaluation (Projects and Program) ✓ Participants (Number; Age; Gender; Nationality; ...)

PARTICIPATION

Number of Participants ✓ Number of Volunteers ✓ NGO involved (National and International) ✓ National Support ✓ Municipality Participation and Engagement ✓ International Support ✓ Planned Participants vs Attended Participants

OUTREACH

People ✓ Audience ✓ Publications ✓ Social Media

SUSTAINABILITY

Established Youth Infrastructure ✓ Youth Policy Documents ✓ Network created ✓ Number of Youth Organisations created ✓ Local Budget for Youth (Year after) ✓ Voting rate on the next elections (local, national and european parliament)

EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL

2009 - ROTTERDAM (NETHERLAND)

2010 - TORINO (ITALY)

2011 - ANTWERP (BELGIUM)

2012 - BRAGA (PORTUGAL)

2013 - MARIBOR (SLOVENIA)

2014 - THESSALONIKI (GREECE)

2015 - CLUJ NAPOCA (ROMANIA)

2016 - GANJA (AZERBAIJAN)

2017 - VARN A (BULGARY)

2018 - CASCAIS (PORTUGAL)

2019 - NOVI SAD (SERBIA)

2020 - AMIENS (FRANCE)

2021 - KLAIPÈDA (LITHUANIA)



EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL | 10 YEARS TITLE

The European Youth Capital title has contributed to improve youth policies at local level, promoting cities more youth-friendly and that encourage young people to be active citizens.

The European Youth Capital title has contributed, among many things, to involve young people in political decision-making processes, to improve and develop the increase of youth participation in participation structures, but also to strengthen the linkage of young people to local decision-making structures .

This title has simultaneously been an incentive for young people to be an active part of local communities. For example, only in the last decade, more than 10000 young people participated in voluntary projects, in the process of the different European Capitals of Youth.

European Youth Capital has characteristics of a mega-event, as it is a relatively large-scale planned event of about one year of duration.

The title narrow links between the cities, national governments and international organizations bringing a number of national and international level events to the cities. Also at international level, the title is an opportunity to cooperate and exchange practices in the form of a network.

The title have a positive impact on fostering European values in the Capitals, such as solidarity, tolerance, and democracy – contributing to build more inclusive societies.

When we think about the importance that this title entails for a community, we must consider advantages such as:

- ✔ Support youth organizations and contribute to raising the quality of youth work at local level for a young and stronger civil society sector across Europe;
- ✔ Encourage cities to invest in young people and their access to their civil, political, economic and social rights and contribute to building a more inclusive Europe.
- ✔ Better links local and European levels, contributing to the implementation of European youth policies at local level, promoting European values and European identity among young people.

2009

ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

THEME: YOUR WORLD

KEY CONCEPT: Improve the public and media image of young people and helping young people to reach their true potential.

ACTIVITY AREAS: **(1)** arts, culture and lifestyle, **(2)** jobs and enterprise, **(3)** housing and living environment, **(4)** apprenticeships and education, **(5)** identity and meeting of minds and **(6)** sports.

+INFO: not available

2010

TORINO, ITALY

THEME: Yourtime 2010

KEY CONCEPT: new youth policies on autonomy paths for young people

ACTIVITY AREAS: **(1)** Your Voice: Debates; **(2)** Your Talent: Creative young people had the opportunity to show their talent; **(3)** Torino Street Style: Street Sports; **(4)** Your Choice: Volunteer and Mobility Opportunities; **(5)** Your Action: opportunity to create their own projects; **(6)** Your Space: Public Spaces for Youth

+INFO: Franca Sedda, Youth Policies Department | franca.sedda@comune.torino.it and Mauro Capella, Youth Policies Department | mauro.capella@comune.torino.it

2011

ANTWERP, BELGIUM

THEME: AEYC2011

KEY CONCEPT: how much space there is for young people in the city and give youth policy an international dimension

ACTIVITY AREAS: **(1)** New events; **(2)** Projects developed by young people; **(3)** Projects of the city departments; **(4)** Antwerp as host capital of existing events

+INFO: not available

NESTE
S. JOÃO,
BRAGA VAI
FESTEJAR,
O QUE EM **2012**
A JUVENTUDE VAI
CRIAR!

www.bragacej2012.com

**CAPITAL EUROPEIA
DA JUVENTUDE**

FOLLOW YOUTH

BRAGA 2012

**CREATIVITY
AND INNOVATION**

INNOVAÇÃO

FOLLOW YOUTH

www.bragacej2012.com

2012 | BRAGA, PORTUGAL

The City of Braga, Portugal was the European Youth Capital in 2012, was the fourth EYC after Rotterdam (Netherlands, 2009), Turin (Italy, 2010) and Antwerp (Belgium, 2011).

The programme of Braga EYC 2012 – “Follow Youth” was codesigned and Co-managed with 52 Youth Organization from Braga and several Portuguese Regions.

“Winning the European Youth Capital in 2012 was a turning point for Braga. We created traditions of people becoming much more involved and taking initiative on different issues. The mentality of our city changed and it also raised citizens’ expectations in terms of what is possible.”

Rui Dória - Member of the organising team, Braga (2012), Portugal.

IT WAS CODESIGNED TO BE:

- ✓ A powerful tool to promote change in the host city by giving to the Youth Sector the power and the resources to manage it by themselves;
- ✓ An opportunity for repositioning the city image wise, by making it more attractive and attract and retain Young people in the City of Braga;
- ✓ A trigger for sectorial reconversion and/or urban regeneration aimed at boosting local economy and promoting young employment in activities of more value added, namely in creative and ICT sectors.

The body responsible for the development and implementation of Braga 2012 EYC programme was the Bracara Augusta Foundation, Non-Profit Private Foundation with Public Utility Status that gather the Municipality of Braga, Minho University, Braga Catholic University and the Church of Braga.

Braga 2012 European Youth Capital took place in the same year than the European Capital of Culture in Guimarães, City that is located 15 km far away from Braga.

This singularity gave special attention to Braga EYC 2012 and was many times comparable with the actions that were being developed in Guimarães ECOC 2012.

2012 | BRAGA, PORTUGAL



The "Follow Youth" - Braga EYC Official Programme that was codesigned and comanaged with 52 Institutions, had in total:

112 WORKSHOPS designed and delivered by Youth Organizations;
88 SUMMITS and seminars;
12185 HOURS devoted directly by youth to activities, in paralleled sessions, laboratories inside or outside the school and in recreation programs.

IN TOTAL 13585 HOURS OF BRAGA EYC 2012 – FOLLOW YOUTH

Note: these stats do not include the management structure activities, and do not include other activities that local association presented like formal activities or activities that were not funded by Braga EYC 2012.

FROM THE OVERALL PROGRAMME WE CAN IDENTIFY 3 DIFFERENT TYPES OF EVENTS

✓ **City Youth Celebrations** events that Included, Open Ceremony, White Night and Closing Ceremony

It was Big Celebration event designed for more than 40 000 Participants with music concerts, Dj's, Firework, with performing and urban art demonstrations, creativity, culture.

These events were Supported by Local, National and Internationals Youth Structures/Partners, European Youth Forum, Former and Future European Youth Capitals, National and European Youth Authorities.

✓ **City Youth Empowerment** events, that included 3 International Youth Summits, Africa, America and Asia, European Youth Capitals Youth Parliament and the Celebration of the International Youth Day in partnership with the UNAOC Summer University.

✓ **European Dimension** Events, that included the several European Projects funded by the European Union under applications developed by Fundação Bracara Augusta and Local Youth Organizations, that had local, regional, national and European Impact, like the creation of the Informal Network of European Youth Capitals.

"You have to know your city very well and find out what city needs and its weak point. When you are thinking of something, you must think of the common good. You have to gather a team that really knows what they are doing"

Miguel Barros, Author of Academic Study "Youth In Action Programme Impact in the City of Braga between 2007-2013".

2012 | BRAGA, PORTUGAL

BRAGA 2012 IMPACT

From the economic viewpoint, Braga 2012 EYC induced a considerable impact in the local economy.

The event was profitable from the economic point of view and It was important to compensate the effects of the Portuguese economic downturn in Braga and the surrounding region.

It was an important tool to contribute to urban rehabilitation off the city and crucial to the installation of Youth facilities in the City of Braga.

On immaterial Impact, the creation of a Network of Youth Workers of Minho region, the development of several Youth Strategies and official Youth representative's bodies inside the Municipality Structure, were the beginning of several youth reformed that leded the City to become **Ibero-american Youth Capital** in 2016 and coordinate an Erasmus+ KA2 Consortium that created the 100% Youth City – EU Quality Label for Youth Friendly Cities in 2017.

Empowerment of Youth Structures working with Youth in Action and Erasmus+ Programme was clear impact of Braga EYC 2012. In 2009 only two Youth Organizations were applying for this EU Funds, and in 2012, 14 projects were approved. Today the District of Braga is already the second District of Portugal with better approval rate.

The Co-management model of Braga EYC 2012 was also the very beginning of **Braga Participatory Budgeting** – “TU DECIDES”, created officially in 2014 that have an annual Budget of 75 000€ that allows youngster to present projects and initiatives to be funded the Municipality of Braga and voted by all youngster of the City of Braga.

On European Dimension the efforts related with the creation of the Informal Network of European Youth Capitals that is cooperation since then and already achieved through Erasmus+ several European Cooperation Projects between European Youth Capitals.



2012 | BRAGA, PORTUGAL

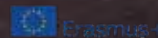
BRAGA 2012 LEGACY

The GNRation Youth Creative HUB, that gather the Head of Braga Local Youth Council, Youth Information Peer Office, StartUp Braga and GNRation Media Arts Creative Centre is the physical Legacy of Braga EYC 2012.

It is a former Military Structure, located in the very center of the City of Braga and that was abandoned in 2008. Was central part of the Strategy of Braga EYC 2012, as Urban Rehabilitation and creation of Youth Infrastructures and Youth Services.

The GNRation is today one of the most disruptive Youth Centre of Europe and an Economical HUB for Youth Innovation in Technology and Social Innovation.

More information in www.gnracion.pt





INTERCULTURAL
INTEGRATION



EDUCATION



CREATIVITY



HOUSING
ISSUES

CO-CREATE

MARiBOR 2013

EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL



STRUCTURED
DIALOGUE



ECOLOGY

f fb.me/mb2013si www.mb2013.si



SPORTS



ENTERTAINMENT



INTERGENERATIONAL
COOPERATION



VOLUNTEERING



EMPLOYMENT

2013 | MORIBOR, SLOVENIA

The City of Maribor, promoted an innovative bottom-up approach in which young people were involved in every step of the planning of activities and policies.

The main objective was to improve the quality of life and to foster youth participation in decision-making processes at the local level, whereas contribute to a facilitated development of the local community.

THE CITY OF MARIBOR PURSUED THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES:

- ✓ Create conditions for the development of an environment that will encourage and support young people to develop and achieve their own potentials, self-reliance and creativity;
- ✓ Enable the participation of young people in decision-making processes that directly or indirectly affects lives of young people within the local community;
- ✓ Enable faster and higher quality of response of individuals and groups to individual, social and intergenerational needs.



The Program of European Youth Capital Maribor 2013 were designed by young people for young people, and as such were among the young well-taken. The primary part of the program was designed to increase employability and employment, encourage volunteerism, intercultural cooperation and active participation of young people.

+info: <http://www.mb2013.si>

Željko Milovanović, Head of Youth Programmes | zeljko.milovanovic@mkc.si

2013 | MARIBOR, SLOVENIA

MARIBOR 2013 LEGACY

The web portal www.mladimaribor.si offers young people all information on youth activities in the city, informing about project opportunities, activities of active youth employment, possibilities for international engagement. The portal is also a platform to promote youth centers, youth organizations and youth organizations in the city.

Mladi Maribor online database platform was created to bring together all the youth organisations information in one place. This made it easier for youth organisations to be aware of each other's work and look for partners for joint activities.

- www.mladimaribor.si



EUROPEAN
YOUTH CAPITAL

THE
SALO
NIKI

2014

2014 | THESSALONIKI, GREECE

The concept of Thessaloniki was "Time". Through the notion of "time" the organisers aimed at promoting the city's history and role in South Eastern Europe, as well as its future perspectives, development and transition towards its social revitalisation.

The proposed 2014 programme comprised of a wide range of actions, carried out around four pillars: creation, participation, special social groups and new social movements, aiming to enhance European involvement, employment, university life, cultural empowerment, volunteering and social/political engagement of young people.

In Thessaloniki, in 2014, more than 3,200 volunteers participated in running projects and delivering over 250 events during the year - most of them were never before involved in any form of volunteering and many of those are still active in the city.

11 THEMATIC AREAS:

- ✔ **CONNECTING YOUTHS:** This set of actions will assist youths to interact. A multilingual website and a youth card was created in order to inform and motivate youths to participate
- ✔ **COLOURFUL CITY:** Actions changing the landscape and colouring the urban scenery
- ✔ **URBAN GREEN STORIES:** Improve the urban environment to shape a better future for the city and share good practices with other cities.
- ✔ **EXPERIMENTING THE FUTURE:** Workshops, seminars and actions promoting new technologies and new ideas
- ✔ **THE NGO TABLE:** Monthly program promoted and developed by NGOs from Greece and abroad.
- ✔ **HERE WE ARE:** Greek identity and history, by offering opportunities for multiculturalism, integration and youth cooperation.
- ✔ **THE SOCIAL CITY:** Strength social links, inform against prejudice, social exclusion etc. ✔ **CULTURE IN THE CITY:** Promote general cultural activities and to create culture dynamics.
- ✔ **URBAN SPORT STORIES:** Actions have been designed to expose young citizens and visitors to a variety of sports, both extreme and mainstream.
- ✔ **VOLUNTEERS CITY:** "Thessaloniki Time Bank" where volunteers will deposit time (volunteer work) and can exchange this "currency" with free access to events or other activities also elsewhere in Europe.
- ✔ **WORLD STORIES:** Actions planned for each month to celebrate specific International Days.

+info: <http://www.thessaloniki2014.gr/>
Babis Papaioannou, Coordinator EYC 2014 |
b.papaioannou@thessaloniki2014.gr
Dimitris Georgiadi, European Youth Projects
for the Community Enterprise of Thessaloniki
Municipality | dimitris.georgiadis@kedith.gr



2015 | CLUJ-NAPOCA, ROMANIA

The mission of Cluj2015 was to strengthen the role and support the active participation of young people and youth organizations in creating the change in society through the process of sustainable, responsible and inclusive urban development, by sharing space, culture, power, work, joy, vision and common European values, addressing topics such as youth empowerment, advocacy, mobility, structures dialogue and information, during a year-long programme in Cluj-Napoca.

The general uniting category for projects was SHARE:

"We believe Cluj-Napoca can share its culture to Europe, Europe can have an important share of Cluj-Napoca, European youth can share their vision, about the present and the future of Europe, all of us can share Cluj-Napoca's space and a year-long experience through proposed projects, events, actions and we share our profession, knowledge, experience thus creating the most competitive knowledge based economy of the world. We believe a youth capital should share power and joy through mobility, partnerships, networks and volunteering".

+info: Tudor Ogner, President of "Federatia Tinerilor din Cluj" |
tudor.ogner@gmail.com

EYC IMPACT THROUGH NEW PROJECTS&CONCEPTS

- ✓ **UNTOLD FESTIVAL:** The Untold Festival is an EDM festival taking place in the Central Park of Cluj-Napoca, Romania, and is nowadays one of the biggest dance music festivals in Europe with a capacity of more than 300,000. <https://untold.com>
- ✓ **COM'ON:** contribute to the improvement of civic participation of young people in local life through local level participatory budgeting mechanisms. <http://comoneurope.org>
- ✓ **CLUJ NEVER SLEEPS:** Cluj Never Sleeps promotes culture in a unique and attractive way by creating a vivid, cultural program of activities and events throughout the night. <https://clujneversleeps.ro>
- ✓ **ROMANIAN YOUTH CAPITAL:** The Youth Capital of Romania, which operates on similar principles to the European Youth Capital, is the most ambitious national youth program, because it focuses on the development of youth ecosystems in the Romanian and on the development of urban youth ecosystems in particular. <https://capitalatineretului.ro>
- ✓ **VOLUNTEERS ACADEMY:** had as main objective to contribute to the active participation in community shaping of a great variety of people with ages between 16 and 40 in Cluj-Napoca, during the preparation and implementation of the "Cluj Napoca European Youth Capital for 2015"
- ✓ **DAY 15:** innovative activation of urban spaces

2016

GANJA, AZERBEIJAN

THEME: CONNECT

KEY CONCEPT: increase youth participation of the city in social and political life through establishment of youth participation mechanisms, encouraging cooperation at local and European level, creating and fostering creation of youth spaces and expression of youth culture.

ACTIVITY AREAS: (1) Volunteering, (2) youth employment, (3) social cohesion, (4) active participation, (5) education

+INFO: not available

2017

VARNA, BULGARIA

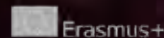
THEME: #InnoWave

KEY CONCEPT: Drive change through social innovation among and actively involving the youth generation of Varna and Europe through a yearlong programme connecting any kind of public and private, profit and not-for-profit organisations and initiatives committed to youth

ACTIVITY AREAS: (1) Creative centre consisting of a start up incubator, training centre, co-working, event hall, and social cafe (2) hi-tech workshops for software development, hardware prototypes and works in different technical, scientific and cultural fields. (3) street library in Varna, Bulgaria.

+INFO: Mircho Hristov, Executive Director |
info@varna2017.bg | <https://varna2017.bg/en>

#EUSOUCAIS2018
I AM CASCAIS2018



2018 | CASCAIS, PORTUGAL

With the theme "Glocal Youth", the vision of Capital Europeia Juventude 2018 was to join the global and local dimensions in this way towards a process of social transformation.

The application to the European Youth Capital came about on the initiative of a young person belonging to a youth organization of our municipality who came to the Youth Division of the Cascais Town Hall and challenged the local authority to apply for this title due to the amount of good practices regarding the good participation policies that the municipality has developed for many years

Cascais 2018 was an opportunity to share good practice between local and international levels, contributing to a more cohesive and inclusive Europe in its local and regional diversity.

Cascais 2018 was the beginning of a process of social transformation, sensitizing society to the importance of civic participation in the different areas of our cities and especially with the younger community. During 2018 increased the possibility of attracting and setting in Cascais more talent, more knowledge, more participation, more culture, more creativity and more tourism.

DURING 2018 CASCAIS DEVELOPED A ACTION PROGRAM THAT INTENDED TO:

- ✓ Reinforce the importance of local youth participation and their role as local actors in the development of territories;
- ✓ Promote social cohesion, to create equal opportunities for participation, raise awareness of problems and situations in the local community;
- ✓ Increase the attractiveness of the territory attracting new interests in young people and showed the value of local resources;
- ✓ Celebrate cultural diversity, bringing together different cultures, promoting the value of intercultural learning;
- ✓ Stimulate creativity and innovation;
- ✓ Stimulate contact networks at local, national and international level;
- ✓ Promote the personal growth of the young people involved providing opportunities for the development of professional, personal and social skills;
- ✓ Contribute to improve the quality of work in the youth field at local, national and European level by developing skills among youth workers;
- ✓ Contribute to the recognition of non-formal education;
- ✓ Increase visibility and access to information on opportunities for young people as an essential tool to foster effective youth participation;
- ✓ Promote citizenship and European values.

2018 | CASCAIS, PORTUGAL

Cascais 2018 was an opportunity to attract more young people to participate in the local community and political decisions and invest in more youth-friendly venues, especially in the construction of youth venues that can be used by youth, cultural and social organizations for free, by communities.

It was also an opportunity for local economy and tourism. We estimate that the economic return has doubled, in relation to the investment made.

Only in events of the European Capital of Youth, more than **thirty thousand meals** were served and more than **ten thousand nights** in Hotels and Hostels

During 2018, more than **300 events** were held, bringing to Cascais around **200,000 participants** from **95 different** nationalities.

CASCAIS 2018 WAS MORE THAN AN “EUROPEAN” YOUTH CAPITAL.

The European Youth Capital title gave to Cascais the opportunity to connect with all European countries, but at the same time to share those same values in other territories.

The fact that the Portuguese language is the 5th most widely spoken on a global scale, in the different continents, opened new horizons during 2018 and gave to Cascais the chance to receive official delegations and extend the Youth Agenda to all Portuguese spoken countries and Countries of the Latin American Space.

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The process of implementing a European Youth Capital requires, above all, a strategic vision that and perpetuates over time. In Cascais, we considered three essential points:

CONNECTION: Promote youth cooperation from the local to the international level, bringing together relevant actors with each other and promoting the feeling of European Citizenship.

COMMUNITY: Develop significant youth participation, social inclusion and cultural diversity. Strengthen the role of youth in the community and include them in the dialogue on a long-term vision of youth policies.

CAPACITY: Promote formal and non-formal education, as well as the social and professional development of young people. To increase the attractiveness of the territory of Cascais, promoting a dynamic and friendly environment of the Youth that will contribute to the fixation of more young people in Cascais and the consequent urban development

2018 | CASCAIS, PORTUGAL

CASCAIS 2018 ICECREAM POWERED BY SANTINI

The creation of "Sabor Cascais 2018", powered by Santini, translated into a fantastic milestone of the connection of YEC 2018 to the business fabric of the municipality, still more important due to the history that unites this great family-based company with the identity of Cascais. A taste that reflected the talent and diversity of the youth of Cascais and that provided moments of great gastronomic satisfaction to all who had the opportunity to indulge in another magnificent Santini flavor.

OFFICIAL SONG | ISTO É CASCAIS

HMB, one of the main national musical groups, with roots in the village of Cascais, created a song that throughout the year was the official song of Cascais 2018.

STAMP OF CASCAIS

CTT - Correios de Portugal launched a philatelic collection with the aim of bringing the Stamp of Cascais - European Youth Capital in the year 2018, to all corners of the world.

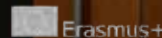
OFFICIAL RADIO STATION

Mega Hits was the official Cascais2018 radio. We had several moments in which the young people of Cascais were able to know the operation of a radio station and also with the constant dissemination of the most outstanding activities of Cascais 2018, in all national radio.

COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Throughout the year, several entities and national and international platforms brought Cascais their events and initiatives and their main agenda.

National Youth Council, National Federation of Youth Associations, Erasmus plus National Agencies, Youth Foundation, National Institute of Youth and Sports, Youth Card Association, Council of Europe, European Commission, OIJ - International Youth Organization for Iberoamerica, Community of Portuguese Language Countries, United Nations, Educating Cities Platform, Scholas Occurrentes, European Youth Forum, Youth Regional Network, North South Center of the Council of Europe.



2018 | CASCAIS, PORTUGAL

JANUARY: At the Estoril Congress Center, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, President of the Portuguese Republic, was present at the Official Opening Ceremony of Cascais 2018 - European Youth Capital.

FEBRUARY: Cascais was the scene of two international conferences about social entrepreneurship and social innovation, with participants from India, Israel, Croatia, Germany and UK. Also in February, the Iberian youth meeting, whose theme was employability and which brought together more than 120 young people. "He for she" an event supported by the UN brought to Cascais the gender agenda and the fight against any prejudices.

MARCH: marked the launch of the exhibition cycle "OitoXoito" in a partnership with the D. Luís I Foundation, which allowed eight talented young artists to exhibit their works at the Cascais Cultural Center during the validity of the European Year of Youth. "Mafeking Talks", which brought together the whole scout and guide community. At Frei Gonçalo de Azevedo School, there was an informal conversation with students and young people, between the European Commissioner, Carlos Moedas and the Prime Minister, António Costa with the topic "The future of Europe". Simultaneously and in parallel was the European Youth Parliament which brought together more than 130 young people in broad discussions on participation and improvement of European mechanisms.

APRIL: A delegation from the Education and Culture Commission spent a day in Cascais, where they visit projects in the area of youth and social cohesion. The North-South Center of the Council of Europe, organized the "Global Education" Training Course, and the month ended, with the celebration of the Youth Associative Day

MAY: The National Meeting of Students Union of Basic and Secondary Education had one hundred and fifty student leaders discussion about the future of Student Associations in Portugal. May is marked by the celebrations of the Europe Day that took place at Nova School of Business and Economics, receiving the European Commissioner Carlos Moedas, the MEP Marisa Matias, and the Mayor of Cascais, Carlos Carreiras, in front of a demanding audience of more than three hundred young people students. The month ended with the Conference of Ministers of Youth and Sports from OIJ - International Youth Organization for Iberoamerica, Community of Portuguese Language Countries.

2018 | CASCAIS, PORTUGAL

JUNE: Organized by the National Federation of Youth Associations (FNAJ), the 16th National Meeting of Youth Associations, bring nearly one thousand young people. Simultaneously, the exhibition "10 Years of Youth: from Generation C. to the European Youth Capital of Youth" was held at Estoril Congress Center. "Infinito Festival", which brought together eight renowned artists in the area of urban arts and "Graffiti" and the 2nd edition of "Europe Goes Local" took place in Cascais, hosting more than 160 specialists in the field of youth, working on the theme of youth participation.

JULY: The biggest reggae music festival in the Iberian Peninsula - MUSA Festival - was held in Carcavelos, attracting thousands of people to the strong programmed concert poster.

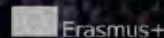
AUGUST: International Youth Day was celebrated on August 12 with an agenda that highlight areas as music – Cascais Youth Music Festival, volunteering – Give me 4 Festival, Cooperation - European Meeting of "Lusodescendentes".

SEPTEMBER: CriArte by Cascais Jovem is the new cultural space in Carcavelos. It's a show room of Cascais Jovem, café and headquarters of two youth associations: Criativa and Palco da Tua Arte. Visit of Experts of the European Commission in the area of migration, where they could see "*in loco*" good examples of social cohesion developed in our county, namely the work developed by the Carcavelos Community Center with Syrian refugees.

OCTOBER: Jota Joti who gathered two thousand scouts and guides, once again with the presence of the President of the Portuguese Republic. Also in October the Youth and Sports Institute, Erasmus plus National Agency, National Youth Council and National Federation of Youth Associations co-organize the Youth and Development Academy.

NOVEMBER: The World Guinness Chemistry Class gathered about 1,500 students from 17 of our schools - a joint work of the entire school community and various departments of the municipality. For the story, there is also the 1st edition of the Youth International Congress of Educating Cities, integrated in the 15th Edition of the Congress of Educating Cities. International Youth Work at Municipal Level, gathered a number of european youth actors who highlighted the positive and beneficial effects of local authorities investing in capacity building and more and better youth participation tools.

DECEMBER: Organized by the National Youth Council, the Youth Summit gathered more than 500 young people with the topic of "50 years of the Human Rights Declaration". This event coincided with the Closing Ceremony of Cascais 2018, and some other international events. In the Closing Ceremony the mayor of Cascais recognized in a public session, all the different departments from the Municipality and the different stakeholders that made it possible to make Cascais 2018 a structural, democratic, participative and engaging project.



2019

NOVI SAD, SERBIA

THEME: OPENS19

KEY CONCEPT: More opportunities for youth by youth, empowering them to become pro-active initiators of positive changes, introducing innovative ideas not only in Novi Sad, but also at national and international level. .

ACTIVITY AREAS: (1) Celebrate young people's energy; (2) Boost innovation and creativity; (3) Promote Europe and its values; (4) Celebrate diversity and its potentials; (5) Increase youth participation; (6) Strengthen youth NGOs; (7) Develop more inclusive youth policy!

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2020

AMIENS, FRANCE

THEME: Amiens for Youth

KEY CONCEPT: The aim is to create the best friendly and innovative spaces in Amiens for young people. Amiens 2020 wants young people at the centre of decision-making processes in all areas and levels. Amiens For Youth wants to make the city a laboratory of experimentation about innovative Youth policies.

ACTIVITY AREAS: (1) Youth Employment; (2) Youth as City Actors; (3) Youth Inclusion; (4) European values and Citizenship

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2021

KLAIPEDA, LITHUANIA

THEME: CHOOSEKLAIPEDA

KEY CONCEPT: Encourage youth to believe in their efforts, that they can be the leaders in youth policy and also work together for the welfare of young people in the city and all across the world.

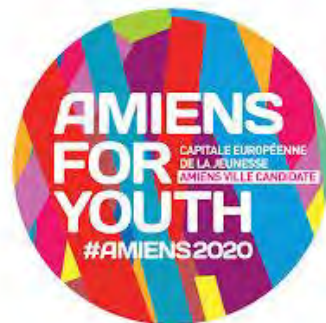
ACTIVITY AREAS: (1) Creativity and entrepreneurship; (2) Social and civic activity; (3) Open and attractive city for youth; (4) International collaboration

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THESSALONIKI 2014
EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL

innowave
varna 2017
Европейска младежка столица



our
time

Torino 2010
European
Youth Capital



CASCAIS
2018

MA
RI
BOR
2013

European
Youth
Capital



Cluj-Napoca 2015
Kolozsvár
Klausenburg
European Youth Capital



BRAGA
2012

CAPITAL EUROPEIA
DA JUVENTUDE

NETWORK OF EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL





WE BELIEVE IN

one Europe with cities and metropolitan areas committed to youth and actively involving youth policies in local and regional development, participatory processes and decision making.

WE CONSIDER

youth participation, equal opportunities for youth and sustainability of youth structures as driving forces of medium and long term urban development, with a key contribution to the quality of life of all inhabitants of cities and the surrounding regions.

WE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT

youth policies and strategies of the European Union, the Council of Europe and the United Nations, and aims implementing them effectively at local level.

WHY ?

A NETWORK OF EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITALS

To **enable project based interaction** with a special emphasis on youth and develop platforms between member cities and partners based on solidarity in the cooperation process.

To **empower European cities** and their surrounding regions in considering youth participation, equal opportunities for youth and sustainable development of youth structures as strategic priorities for their medium and long term development in the process of achieving better quality of life.

To set **sustainable and demonstrative standards**, frameworks and good practices in policies regarding local level youth participation and active citizenship.

To contribute to the European and global level **recognition of the European Youth Capital title** as a tool for local level implementation of European policies, for strengthening interactions between European institutions and local bodies and as a role model for the further development of youth policies in other European municipalities.

YOUTH CAPITAL TO YOUTH CAPITAL

Inspiring, Sharing, Learning