2018: a year that brought celebrations, breakthroughs and powerful moments for young people. While challenges remain on the horizon and new threats for Europe and our planet are imminent, we must not underestimate the significant advancements that the European Youth Forum and our Member Organisations have made this year.

We are starting to witness the world waking up to the reality of youth rights. Through our work with the United Nations we are proud that for the first time young people are being recognised as rights-holders in the UN Youth Strategy. At European level, the announcement of the new EU Youth Strategy marked another huge milestone, reflecting years of dedicated work by the Youth Forum and our Member Organisations. We’re now ready to make sure that young people and youth organisations are at the core of turning this ambition into reality.

We were very excited this year to celebrate what has been an incredible ten years of the European Youth Capital. With each new winning city the initiative grows stronger, creating a ripple effect that not only brings positive change in the cities themselves but in others across Europe as they share ideas, experiences and best practices. The creation of new and improved co-decision-making structures was highlighted as one of the main benefits for the title winners in our ten year report. We can’t wait to spark the evolution of more innovative, youthful cities as we look ahead to ten more years of the European Youth Capital - and beyond!

This year our biggest event of the year got even bigger. For the 10th anniversary of Yo!Fest we gathered, together with the European Youth Event, 10,000 people to the doorstep of the European Parliament in Strasbourg. Young people demonstrated beyond doubt that they have the vision to shape and carry forward the European project. With the countdown to the next European elections well underway, it is a message that must not be lost. The Youth Forum is taking the call for youth-friendly politics directly to European political parties, supported by our unanimously adopted policy platform, 10 ideas to #YouthUp the European Elections.

As we look to the future we must be ready to stand up for the realities and challenges still facing young people across all aspects of their lives: from navigating the precarious transition from education to work, to fighting against multiple discrimination, social exclusion, poverty and lack of representation. As our new Youth Progress Index shows, our societies still have a long way to go to meaningfully include youth voices. Empowering young people and their communities to support other displaced young people was also a significant focus of 2018, as we worked in partnership with the UN Refugee Agency to increase the capacity of ten youth-driven volunteer projects through our European Youth Initiative Fund.

As the Board has reached the end of its 2017-2018 cycle we are proud of what the European Youth Forum has accomplished. Our youth movement continues to grow stronger and together we’re ready for what’s on the horizon in 2019.

Luis Alvarado Martinez  President
Anna Widegren  Secretary General
### HIGHLIGHTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JANUARY</th>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th>APRIL</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUNE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Updated position on the implementation of the Youth Guarantee adopted by the Board</td>
<td>Position on Comprehensive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Europe adopted by the Board</td>
<td>Regional consultation on youth and human rights organised jointly with the UN Human Rights Office and bringing together representatives of youth civil society to feed into a report to the Human Rights Council</td>
<td>10 projects selected for funding under the European Youth Initiative Fund, from a total of 155 project applications</td>
<td>UN Security Council adopted resolution 2419 on youth, peace and security</td>
<td>Yo!Fest 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU leaders meet in Sofia and commit for more investment in the Erasmus+ programme</td>
<td>Cascais European Youth Capital 2018 opening ceremony</td>
<td>Youth Forum meeting for the Member Organisations and the European Commission on the EU Youth Strategy</td>
<td>Policy paper on the Multiannual Financial Framework adopted</td>
<td>European Youth Initiative Fund kick-off and capacity-building event for project leaders of the 10 funded youth-led initiatives</td>
<td>Response to the observations of the Government of Belgium regarding the merits of our collective complaint, lodged in 2017, to address unpaid internships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partners organisations meet in Strasbourg to prepare the Yo!Fest 2018</td>
<td>Council of Europe High Level Task Force on Youth Work starts its work, including the Youth Forum</td>
<td>Publication of the Shadow Report on the Mid-Term Evaluation of Erasmus+ Youth Chapter</td>
<td>Policy paper on Sustainable Development adopted</td>
<td>Debate in Cascais on the future of work</td>
<td>President’s speech at High-Level EU Talanoa Dialogue event on climate change</td>
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<td>Participants at the EU Youth Conference formulate input for the EU Youth Strategy - EU Youth Goals</td>
<td>EU Conference on Youth, Peace and Security “Promoting Youth in Peacebuilding: implementing UNSCR 2373”</td>
<td>The Youth Forum joining Council of Europe Advisory Mission to FYROM to advise on creation of a new Youth Law</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Highlights**

- **July**: High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development - more than 10 European countries were reviewed on their progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- **August**: Launch of the sustainable development video and campaign “Change the Game.”
- **September**: UN Youth Strategy launched; UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Report on youth and human rights sent to Human Rights Council.
- **October**: Austrian Presidency and Youth Forum side event with the Youth Working Party of the Council of the EU and relevant stakeholders on the EU Youth Strategy; Austrian Presidency Conference on Youth & Gender (co-organised by the Youth Forum & the Austrian Youth Council).
- **November**: EU SDG Multistakeholder Platform (Youth Forum is a member) adopted its input to the European Commission’s reflection paper on the subject.
- **December**: Adoption of the Position on DiscoverEU for all: travelling, learning & volunteering; 19th edition of the University on Youth and Development took place in Mollina on the Sustainable Development Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions.

**Youth Forum and our Member Organisation participation in global climate negotiations at COP24 in Poland**

- **Meetings with main European political parties to agree on joint activities and partnerships in the 2019 European Elections campaign**
- **Publication of the 4th Africa-Europe Youth Summit Report**
**OUR NUMBERS**

- **1** Youth Forum Board election
- **3m95** of financial documents
- **9,700+** messages in the Board WhatsApp group, according to undisclosed sources.
- **1,6 mln** impressions on Twitter re-tweets
- **27** plants in the office
- **10** projects selected for funding under the European Youth Initiative Fund, from a total of 155 project applications
- **1988+** invoices processed
- **393** external representations of the Youth Forum Board to events of members, partners and other stakeholders
- **80** minutes of meditation in the Youth Forum office with in-house guru
- **116** usages of #youthup on Twitter & and 105 #foryouthrights
- **141,088** Facebook followers
- **69 kilos** of coffee consumed
- **312** invoices processed
OUR NUMBERS

62
MENTIONS IN VARIOUS EUROPEAN MEDIA OUTLETS.

10,000
YOUNG PEOPLE GATHERED FOR YOIFEST 2018 AT THE EUROPEAN YOUTH EVENT IN STRASBOURG.

160+
ACTIVITIES WITH 40 PARTNERS AT THE YOIFEST 2018 @ THE EYE 2018.

2
NEW FULL MEMBER ORGANISATIONS
- NYCY-FYROM
- EUDY European Union of the Deaf Youth

40,300
MINUTES OF VIDEO VIEWED ON FACEBOOK

81,337
VISITORS TO THE YOUTH FORUM WEBSITE
YOUTH RIGHTS

In 2018, progress was made on youth rights at United Nations level, with a UN report on youth and human rights submitted to the Human Rights Council in the second half of the year and reflecting our priorities. We also saw an increase in the number of youth-focused recommendations put towards UN Member States through the Universal Periodic Review, the process that reviews countries’ human rights records, as a result of our work to support our Member Organisations to engage in the process.

Building on our previous work on the rights-based approach, in 2018 we developed our Member Organisations’ capacity to mainstream this approach in their work through dedicated training opportunities and our new Checklist #ForYouthRights.

Together with our partner Equinet, we fostered closer links between youth organisations and National Equality Bodies to address age-based discrimination against young people.

STRONG YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

One of our priorities this year was to ensure that the voice of youth organisations was meaningfully represented in the discussions around the next Erasmus and European Solidarity Corps programmes. We worked to ensure that youth organisations will have a say on how these programmes are implemented and that they have access to sustainable funding for their projects.

The Youth Forum also successfully advocated for the recognition of youth organisations as youth work and non-formal education providers in the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027. We brought the voice of youth organisations into the discussion on raising the quality of youth work, and working towards equal support, opportunities and recognition of volunteer youth workers.

Beyond Europe, the Youth Forum advocated strongly within the Youth Peace and Security agenda for youth organisations to be seen as an essential stakeholders for the implementation of the UNSCR2250. We also advocated for a stronger role for youth organisations within the framework of interregional cooperation and the network of universities with Africa and the Western Balkans as well as at global level with the Caribbean and Pacific with relevant institutions.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

2018 saw the development of a solid basis for the European Youth Forum’s advocacy on sustainable development, through the adoption of a position paper on implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Europe and a policy paper on sustainable development more broadly. Research into the contribution of youth organisations to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will also support further advocacy.
As a member of the EU’s Sustainable Development Goal Multistakeholder Platform, we were able to ensure strong references to youth in the Platform’s input to the European Commission on the implementation of the SDGs. Similarly, we helped to establish youth as one of the categories for the newly created EU Sustainability Awards.

During 2018, the European Youth Forum’s profile as an important stakeholder on sustainable development and climate change was raised, and we were able to increase space for Member Organisations to bring their concerns to high-level meetings.

**SOCIAL & ECONOMIC INCLUSION**

The European Youth Forum engaged with the different EU institutions to push for improvements to the European Social Fund Plus programme. Following this advocacy, the European Parliament position calls for increased funding for youth employment, the Youth Guarantee and social inclusion.

Continuing our work on transitions from education to work, the European Parliament’s decision to ban unpaid internships in MEPs offices was a huge step forwards for quality internships. The European Apprentices Network, meanwhile, encouraged the European Commission to map representative structures for apprentices across the EU.

We developed the capacity of Member Organisations to work on inclusion of refugees and displaced youth in their structures through the Welcome! Checklist and training opportunities. EU Council Conclusions on the role of youth work in the context of migration and refugee matters were adopted, recognising the importance of supporting the inclusion of young refugees from the day of arrival.

The European Youth Initiative Fund, implemented through partnership with UNHCR, successfully empowered ten grassroots level youth-led projects to enable displaced and local young people to build more inclusive and open communities in ten different European countries. In December 2018, the European Youth Initiative Fund received an award, recognising it as a best practice for enhancing the inclusion of young refugees into host communities.

**PARTICIPATION**

The newly launched Youth Progress Index is a strong advocacy tool, providing data on the wellbeing of younger generations around the world, as well as to what extent their potential as global citizens is being met.

Research into how political parties can better at include young people and promote youth interests was published in our study, Youth & Political Parties - a toolkit for Youth-friendly politics in Europe. Looking ahead to the European Elections 2019, the
European Youth Forum also adopted a campaign strategy and a Policy Platform, “10 Ideas to #YouthUP the 2019 European Elections”.

The European Youth Capital initiative continues to grow and evolve. To strengthen its development, and in line with the European Youth Forum’s vision, new strategic guidelines are now in place.

Through our advocacy work on the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027 together with Member Organisations, we helped to ensure that the new Strategy contains a strong focus on participation, volunteering and youth work, and has established instruments for greater civil society involvement, and cross-sectoral implementation.

INSTITUTIONS

The European Youth Forum continued to build on our networks and outreach throughout 2018. We meet with several ambassadors within the European Union and Member States as well as Ministers in charge of Youth during the EU Youth Conference in Vienna in September. We also met with high-level officials at the United Nations. The Youth Forum’s input was taken on board in UN Youth Strategy, which has a strong focus on rights.

We expanded our contacts into new bodies, including the EPSCO Council and the Multi Stakeholder Platform working on Sustainable Development Goals implementation in the EU. We also developed our partnership with the Committee of the Regions.

The start of 2018 also saw the beginning of the development of the Council of Europe 2030 Youth strategy. The Youth Forum gave significant contributions to this process, ensuring that its main claims were included. There is more work to come in the year ahead.

Furthermore, the Youth Forum is contributing to the development of a European youth work strategy, through our position as part of the high level task force on the implementation of the Youth Work Recommendation of the Council of Europe.

The European Youth Forum has been nominated to be part of the new North-South Centre of the Council of Europe Executive Committee.
OUR MEMBERS

FULL MEMBERS
National Youth Councils
Allianssi (NYC Finland)  BYC (NYC United Kingdom)  RADA (NYC Belarus)  CGJL (NYC Luxembourg)  CJE (NYC Spain)  CNAJEP (NYC France)  CNJ (NYC Portugal)  CNJC (NYC Catalonia)  CNTM (NYC Moldova)  CRDM (NYC Czech Republic)  CJ (NYC Belgium (FRI))  SAJV/CSAJ (NYC Switzerland)  CTR (NYC Romania)  CYC (NYC Cyprus)  DNK (NYC Germany)  DUF (NYC Denmark)  ENL (NYC Estonia)  ESYN (NYC Greece)  FNG (NYC Italy)  DNYC (NYC Netherlands)  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)  NCVOG (NYC Georgia)  NYCA (NYC Armenia)  NYCI (NYC Ireland)  NYCR (NYC Russia)  NYF (NYC Bulgaria)  ÖJV (NYC Austria)  PROM (NYC Poland)  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 (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)  IFRLY (International Federation of Liberal Youth)  IFM-SEI (International Falcon Movement - Socialist Educational International)  IFMSA (International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations)
IGLYO (International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Youth and Student Organisation) IUSY (International Union of Socialist Youth) IYNF (International Young Naturefriends) JECI-MIEC (International Young Catholic Students – International Movement of Catholic Students) JEF (Young European Federalists) LYMEC (European Liberal Youth) MIJARC (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 (World Esperanto Youth Organization) WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts) WOSM (World Organization of the Scout Movement (European Scout Region)) YEE (Youth and Environment Europe) YEN (Youth of European Nationalities) YEPP (Youth of the European Peoples Party) YES (Young European Socialists) YEU (Youth for Exchange and Understanding) YMCA (Young Men’s Christian Association) YWCA (Young Women’s Christian Association)

CANDIDATE MEMBERS
National Youth Councils
NYCU (NYC Ukraine)

International Youth Organisations
Y-E-N (Youth Express Network)
FLARE (Freedom, Legality and Rights in Europe)

OBSERVER MEMBERS
National Youth Councils
RDJ (NYC Belgium (DE))
NIT (NYC Hungary)

International Youth Organisations
BEST (Board of European Students of Technology) CEJA (European Council of Young Farmers) CESI-Youth (European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions - Youth) CIV (Children’s International Summer Villages) DBYN (Don Bosco Youth-Net) EGEA (European Geography Association) EFAY (European Free Alliance Youth) ENGO Youth (European Non Gouvernementsal Sport Organisation Youth) EYP (European Youth Press Network of Young Media Makers FICEMEA (International Federation of Training Centres for the Promotion of Progressive Education) ICYCW (International Coordination of Young Christian Workers Movement) IDEANL (International Debate Education Association) IFHOHYP (International Federation of Hard of Hearing Young People) JEUNE (Young Entrepreneurs Organization of the European Union) JMI (Jeunesses Musicales International) Pax Christi (Pax Christi International) RCY (Red Cross Youth) YDE (Young Democrats for Europe) The Award (The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award Foundation)
INCOME
Grants

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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>EUROPEAN COMMISSION</td>
<td>2,609,652 €</td>
<td>66%</td>
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<td>EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT</td>
<td>728,317 €</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>227,832 €</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<td>COUNCIL OF EUROPE</td>
<td>70,000 €</td>
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<td>OTHER GRANTS (MARIBEL, GOOGLE)</td>
<td>85,312 €</td>
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<td>OTHER INCOME AND PARTNERSHIPS</td>
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<td>MEMBERSHIP FEES</td>
<td>150,050 €</td>
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<td>OTHERS</td>
<td>51,606 €</td>
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<td>TOTAL INCOME</td>
<td>3,922,769 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXPENDITURE</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
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<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy and Advocacy</td>
<td>1,491,014 €</td>
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<td>Governance</td>
<td>400,586 €</td>
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<td>Operational Costs</td>
<td>981,517 €</td>
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<td>Yo!Fest 2018</td>
<td>728,975 €</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Initiative Fund</td>
<td>227,832 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>55,367 €</td>
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<td>Total Expenditure</td>
<td>3,885,291 €</td>
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WELCOME
HIGHLIGHTS
OUR NUMBERS
OUR IMPACT
OUR MEMBERS
OUR RESOURCES
OUR PEOPLE

BOARD

Luis Alvarado Martinez
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Vice President

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Tea Jarc (ETUC Youth)
Tanya Lyubimova (IFLRY)
Matej Manevski (NYCM FYROM)
Milosh Ristovski (YEU)
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