

## The project «#EngagEU» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Overall, 7 events took place in this project.

**Event 1: Preparatory Activities: #1stYoungCitizens'FutureLab, 27/09/2018 to 28/09/2018, Otzenhausen, Germany; #EngagEU Partner Meeting, 12/10/2018, Berlin, Germany**

**Participation:** Preparatory activities involved 25 participants in total: The #1stYoungCitizens'FutureLab involved 10 citizens from Germany and France as well as one participant from the United States of America and two participants from Ukraine; the #EngagEU Partner Meeting involved 12 citizens from France, Germany and Poland.

**Location / Dates:** The preparatory #1stYoungCitizens'FutureLab took place in Otzenhausen, Germany, from 27/09/2018 to 28/09/2018. The #EngagEU Partner Meeting took place on 12/10/2018 in Berlin, Germany.

**Short description:** The #1stYoungCitizens'FutureLab aimed at 1) testing the "Future Search Conference" method with a small group of participants and 2) paving the way for a European process of gathering ideas and empowering young citizens to set the agenda with their ideas in the upcoming European elections. The "Future Search Conference" method was identified as appropriate to discover shared priorities and objectives. By dividing working and discussion phases into past, present and future phases, the method allowed for the participants to deal with the roots of European integration, current challenges and perspectives for the future. In detail, the participants focused on e-participation and digital civic involvement. Throughout the event, the method proved to be conducive to develop sustainable visions and concrete recommendations for action in heterogeneous groups as it dismantled intercultural and interpersonal barriers between the participants. The participants also discussed the online youth participation platform OPIN that represents the project's tool for continued discussions in between #YoungCitizens'FutureLabs. The #EngagEU Partner Meeting took place in Berlin, Germany, on 12/10/2018. In the follow-up to the preparatory #1stYoungCitizens'FutureLab, the event aimed at sharing first experiences and "lessons learnt" on the "Future Search Conference" method and OPIN. At this occasion, all project partners from Germany, France, Belgium and Poland met in person and familiarized themselves with the method and tools applied, as well as with the work plan.

**Event 2:**

**#2ndYoungCitizens'FutureLab, 29/11/2018 to 30/11/2018, Otzenhausen/Saarbücken, Germany, and Lunch debate on 28/02/2019, Berlin/Germany**

**Participation:** The event involved 164 citizens, including participants from Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia and Sweden.

**Location / Dates:** The #2ndYoungCitizens'FutureLab took place in Otzenhausen and Saarbrücken, Germany, from 29/11/2018 to 30/11/2018; the Lunch debate took place on 28/02/2019, in Berlin, Germany; in between, there was an ongoing debate on OPIN.

**Short description:** The aim of the #2ndYoungCitizens'FutureLab was to empower young European citizens to develop visions for the future of the European Union, especially in the policy fields of migration and security. This was supplemented by a "Vision Night" in Saarbücken, a public forum that provided the rapporteurs elected from among the participants with the opportunity to present their visions to a broader audience and to discuss them with political scientist Claus Leggewie and the public. During the #2ndYoungCitizens'FutureLab, young European citizens developed visions and ideas for the attention of decision-makers, e.g. free language courses for European citizens to strengthen mutual understanding and communication within the European Union, to widen the scope of the Erasmus programme to new target groups, and to establish a "European Peacekeeping Force" as a first step towards a European army. In the follow-up to the first brain-storming and public feedback on their ideas, the participants continued discussing and working on their ideas on the e-participation platform OPIN.

Taking up the ideas refined during the ongoing online debates, the participants of the #2ndYoungCitizens'FutureLab met again in February 2019 at the occasion of a Lunch Debate in Berlin to present their ideas for the future of Europe to Sandro Gozi, President of the Union of European Federalists,

and Michael Roth, Member of the Bundestag and Minister of State for Europe in the German Federal Foreign Office. The following ideas were discussed: introduction of EU project weeks in schools, establishment of civil society councils for citizens to facilitate exchange with decision-makers, and the role of the civil society in Europe in general.

**Event 3: #3rdYoungCitizens'FutureLab, 14/01/2019 to 18/01/2019, 25/02/2019, Nice, France**

**Participation:** The event involved 202 citizens from Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania and United Kingdom.

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Nice, France, from 14/01/2019 to 18/01/2019, and on 25/02/2019.

**Short Description:** The #3rdYoungCitizens'FutureLab in and around Nice reached out to schools of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region: A group of 25 master students had prepared guided workshop sessions on migration, environment, foreign policy, gender equality and European identity for 135 high- and middle school students. Throughout the #3rdYoungCitizens'FutureLab, students and pupils jointly developed ideas for the future of the European Union in these policy fields. The results of these workshops were disseminated during a public event hosted by the Franco-German Cultural Centre (CCFA) in Nice on 25 February 2019 with journalists from Germany and Greece and a French judge and former EP candidate.

**Event 4: #4thYoungCitizens'FutureLab, 04/03/2019, Warsaw, Poland**

**Participation:** The event involved 119 citizens from Albania, Denmark, France, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and the United Kingdom.

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Warsaw, Poland, on 04/03/2019.

**Short Description:** During the #4thYoungCitizens'FutureLab in Warsaw, young European citizens discussed future challenges for the European Union and the new European Parliament with experts on European politics and Eastern Europe. The debate focused on Poland and Ukraine, as well as on challenges to the European integration process in general. Challenges identified by the #EngagEU participants focused on strengthening the Common Market, on encouraging moderate political parties to better address public concerns, on reforming European institutions to increase efficient workflows, and on promoting integration processes and projects for migrants. Also, the participants claimed for the EU to act as a guardian of diversity, equality, human rights and free education for all citizens. The subsequent public debate focused on potential Russian influence on the European elections and on Eastern and Central European member states. The debate was concluded by stressing the importance of the ideas for the future of Europe developed throughout the #EngagEU project.

**Event 5: #EngagEU manifesto workshop, 18/03/2019 to 19/03/2019, Berlin, Germany**

**Participation:** The event involved 25 participants from Albania, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Poland and Portugal.

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Berlin, Germany, on 18/03/2019 to 19/03/2019.

**Short description:** Outstanding participants of the #YoungCitizens'FutureLabs and the rapporteurs elected from among the participants gathered in Berlin for a Manifesto Workshop. During the workshop, participants split in four working groups (foreign policy, environment, migration, and identity) to formulate objectives and policy proposals for these policy areas. The results were discussed in plenary discussions and then condensed in a youth manifesto for the Future of Europe to be presented to decision-makers and the public. The workshop also involved representatives of the institutional partners of the #EngagEU project, namely the Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA), the Centre international de formation européenne (CIFE) and WiseEuropa.

**Event 6: Pre EP-election #YoungCitizens'Convention – Debate with Members of the European Parliament on the Future of Europe, 24/09/2019, Brussels, Belgium**

**Participation:** The event involved 116 citizens, including participants from Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Brussels, Belgium, on 24/09/2019. In order to discuss the „Young Ideas for the Future of Europe” Manifesto with new MEPs right after their election, which made Brussels a more practical location for this purpose, the project partners decided to switch the order of the #YoungCitizens'Conventions as indicated in the original application. Hence, the name of the event was changed into #2ndYoungCitizens'Convention.

**Short description:** The #2ndYoungCitizens'Convention was organized by TEPSA on 24 September 2019 in Brussels. The event benefitted from the participation of Vice-President of the European Parliament Pedro Silva Pereira, who delivered a passionate keynote speech, four Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) as the panelists, several Civil Society Organizations, and over a hundred citizens with an interest in the EU. Funda Tekin, Director of the Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP), opened the event with insightful remarks on the outcome of the 2019 European Parliament elections, and the main features of the project. The #2ndYoungCitizens'Convention – Debate with Members of the European Parliament on the Future of Europe was moderated by EU Affairs analyst Jacki Davis. Throughout the event, the online platform Slido, was extensively used to involve the audience. The structure of the debate followed the structure of the

Manifesto and was mainly based on four of its policy proposals. During the interactive debate, the participants were instructed to express their level of agreement with the four different policy proposals taken from the Manifesto by voting on Slido. After the revelation of polls, the panelists commented on the results and expressed their point of view regarding the policy proposals.

Following the debate, a Civic Engagement Hub took place. At this occasion, several civil society organisations presented their work on civic engagement of (young) European citizens.

**Event 7: Post EP-election #YoungCitizens'Convention with Federal President Steinmeier. 30/04/2019, Berlin**

**Participation:** The event involved 100 citizens from Albania, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal and Sweden.

**Location / Dates:** The event took place in Berlin, Germany, on 30/04/2019. As the project partners decided to switch the order of the #YoungCitizens'Conventions (see above), post EP-election #YoungCitizens'Convention has been transformed into the #1stYoungCitizens'Convention.

**Short description:** The #1stYoungCitizens'Convention took place on 30/04/2019 in Berlin. Thanks to the participation of high-level speakers – several MEP candidates and German Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier – the event helped to increase public attention for the imminent European elections.

At the occasion of the #1stYoungCitizens'Convention, #EngagEU rapporteurs presented their Manifesto “Young Ideas for the Future of Europe” that emerged from the ideas developed throughout the four #YoungCitizens'FutureLabs to the public and Federal President Steinmeier.

In his welcoming remarks, Federal President Steinmeier addressed the importance of youth participation in decision-making processes on a European level. Additionally, six young candidates for the European Parliament gathered to discuss the “Young Ideas for the Future of Europe” Manifesto in a Fishbowl discussion with the rapporteurs and the public.

At the same event, a dozen youth organisations presented their campaigns for the European Parliament's elections at the “EU campaign hub”.