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# THE EU4YOUTH INITIATIVE

The flagship regional EU4Youth programme aims to **foster the employability and active participation of young people** in the Eastern partner countries. It was launched in 2017 and is led by the European Commission's Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR).

The programme seeks to increase investment in young people's skills, entrepreneurship and employability, and to encourage their active participation in both democratic life and the labour market. The initiative focuses particularly on disadvantaged youth, with specific attention given to gender equality and women empowerment.

EU4Youth is structured around **three key pillars**:



## EDUCATION & EMPLOYABILITY

Developing work-ready skills, capacity building to create more education and employment opportunities, formal and non-formal education and other career development support.



## ENTREPRENEURSHIP & EMPLOYMENT

Increasing entrepreneurial skills and investing in initiatives to promote (social) entrepreneurship education, including on green and digital innovation. Promoting more quality jobs, especially for disadvantaged youth and developing targeted youth employment measures.



## ENGAGEMENT & EMPOWERMENT

Enhancing participation in society through increasing youth awareness about policy developments, supporting a more structured youth dialogue and improvements in policy design on youth matters geared towards strengthening young people's civic participation.



### SMALL GRANTS:

Since 2017 the European Commission's DG EAC / EACEA has granted 102 small projects in the region involving over 600 organisations from 37 countries. The projects focus on capacity building for youth organisations and youth workers. **(€ 11 million)**

### LARGE GRANTS

Since 2018 EU4Youth has supported ten large regional projects over Phase I & II, focusing on increasing employability, (social) entrepreneurship and youth participation. **(€ 14.5 million)**



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE / CAPACITY BUILDING:

#### EU4Youth Coordination & Support - EY 2018-2023

Ensures coordination among EU4Youth projects and contracts, supports the monitoring, communication and visibility of the large grants (Phase I & II) and the EU4Youth initiative, including the annual EU4Youth days. The team is in charge of the EU4Youth Alumni Network, and provides sectoral expertise for better alignment with policies and initiatives. **(€ 4.8 million)**



#### Youth Engagement Roadmaps - GOPA 2019-2022

Promotes and facilitates multi-stakeholder discussions on youth participation, youth employment partnerships and youth social entrepreneurship through Policy Labs and thematic roundtables. The team strengthens capacity building efforts on youth engagement and provides thematic reviews and research. **(€ 2.2 million)**



### EU4YOUTH PHASE III

#### Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship - CPMA 2021-2025

**COMPONENT 1:** Manages the Phase III grants:

#### GRANTS:

- **Phase III (2022-2024)** During the third phase ca. 13 large projects are expected to begin, which focus on digital skills development and youth entrepreneurship, particularly in the areas of green and digital economies. **(€ 6 million)**
- Additional grants are targeted at supporting societal and economic resilience in Ukraine. **(€ 2 million)**

#### COMPONENT 2

Supports the development of human capital and implementation of active labour market policies through institutional building, networking and adopting suitable elements from the EU Youth Guarantee, with the aim of integrating young people into the labour market, particularly targeting disadvantaged youth.

**(€ 5.02 million)**

#### COMPONENT 3

Increases the knowledge and understanding of EaP youth of European politics and governance and fosters cross-cultural learning through scholarships to the College of Europe and research fellowship support on topics relevant to EU integration.

**(€ 2.10 million)**

### EU4YOUTH PHASE IV:

#### Youth engagement and empowerment (€ 5 million),

is planned to start in early 2023. It aims to increase the influence young people in the EaP region have in determining policy outcomes, through two elements:



Increased capacity of youth organisations and public institutions to jointly implement more participatory and structured policy dialogue.



Improved quality and outreach of youth work for mobilising and engaging more young people from remote/less advantaged areas.