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Martine Reicherts

Director-General, DG Education and Culture, European Commission

Young people across Europe continue to face many challenges as they make the transitions to employment and independent living. At the same time, there are many more opportunities for young people to continue their education, volunteer, train or work in another European country, through the EU's Erasmus+ programme and other initiatives.

In 2015, Eurodesk's 25th anniversary year, the European Commission was pleased to continue its financial support of Eurodesk, enabling it to continue playing a key role in unlocking these European opportunities for young people, by providing them with clear and accurate information in person, through its networks of multipliers, through the European Youth Portal and through its own online services such as the new Last Minute Offers database.

As has been demonstrated many times, these international experiences help young people to gain valuable additional skills and knowledge that employers are looking for. The issuing of the 500,000th Youthpass in 2015 shows that the EU's programmes for youth contribute greatly in the area of employability.

These cross-border opportunities also help to promote the common European values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination that we hope young people will understand and share, thereby contributing to strengthening the social fabric and cohesion of European societies in response to the acts of violent extremism that tragically occurred in the last years.

One of the issues we face is ensuring that all young people are able to take advantage of what Europe offers, that they have the same access to information and services, and that they are able to have their voices heard by policy and decision-makers at all levels. I commend Eurodesk in its efforts to expand its networks of multipliers in order to reach those who are harder to engage in such activities.

I wish Eurodesk and its partners all the best in their future endeavours to help young people make the most of being young in Europe.



Reinhard Schwalbach

Eurodesk President

2015 was determined by very productive work. The most part of our services and instruments had been analysed and revamped and some newly created. With a huge effort from the team in Eurodesk Brussels Link and a number of our member organisations, it was possible to finalise the innovation projects. We met our challenges and the work done is the base for successful information and counselling services.

Thanks to the tremendous editing work of all Eurodesk, Eurodesk launched the new website. It is modern, gives all our information workers a space on the European map and the visitors a face behind their enquiries. Our homepage shows all the useful information of our extensive network covering 34 countries. Supporting our European wide network even better than before we provided all national coordinators, the local and regional partners with a revamp of our communication platform "FirstClass".

Two months after finishing the Eurodesk.eu, another new service went public. The Last Minute Offer database went online and for the first time, there is a unique platform for mobility offers of divers formats, from Europe and beyond. Young people (and their parents) will appreciate it.

In addition to our support to the European Youth Week in April and May – with a high number of activities of the network – we ran our mobility campaign "Time to Move" with a lot of creative and funny ideas.

One of the vast advantages of Eurodesk is our large network of partners at regional and local level, with our multipliers guaranteeing the dissemination of the information. This indispensable network needs an adequate service and recognition. Therefore, Eurodesk has set up a series of Eurodesk Qualifying Training Programme Modules. The number of trainings will increase to cover all important services and qualifications a Eurodesk person is dealing with.

As usual the Eurodesk network had three European "summits", as our meetings were called in the past. This year's summits gave us the opportunity to celebrate Eurodesk 25th Anniversary. During our spring meeting in Brussels, we welcomed stakeholders from Member States, the European Commission and Eurodesk staff from past decades. For our Autumn meeting in Mollina, Spain, we had a common party with our multipliers and national coordinators. Having acknowledged our best multipliers for 2015 with the Eurodesk Awards and having welcomed Eurodesk Macedonia and Switzerland as new members in the association, the entire network had – thanks to Eurodesk Spain – a great time under the Spanish starry sky.

After this busy year, I want again to thank all of our stakeholders inside and outside the Eurodesk network at European, national, regional and local level, in the European institutions and Member States for their support and confidence in the quality of our work and services. May your support last another 25 years!

JAN

After the building of the site was finished in 2014, Eurodesk launched the process of registering multipliers to the interactive map in January. By the end of 2015, there were more than 500 Eurodesk personnel registered on the site with introduction and contact details.

FEB

In February, the Training Design Team, consisting of Eurodesk national coordinators, multipliers and training experts finished the first module of the Qualifying Training Programme that aims to introduce the basics of Eurodesk to multipliers. Throughout 2015, many countries translated and adapted the module in their countries and had successful trainings.

MAR

The 2015 Spring network meeting was organised in March, by Eurodesk Brussels Link in Brussels, Belgium. In the spirit of the 25th anniversary, former directors and staff of Eurodesk and external guests active in the youth field celebrated the event at a reception.

Eurodesk launched the Last Minute Offers website in the presence of European Commission representatives, the current Eurodesk president, former presidents and directors. The event took place at the 25th anniversary celebration of the organisation during the Spring network meeting.

During the Extraordinary General Assembly Macedonia was officially welcomed as a member of the Eurodesk Association.

APR-MAY

Between 27 April and 10 May 2015, Eurodesk took part in the organisation of the European Youth Week events all over Europe. Eurodesk multipliers were the largest identified group of organisers of the EYW.

SEP

During the Summer, Eurodesk Brussels Link revamped Eurodesk's internal communication tool, FirstClass. Through the process the intranet got a more rational structure, new services, new icons and a new layout.

SEP-OCT

2015 marked the second edition of Eurodesk's flagship visibility campaign, 'Time to Move'. During the two-week period of the communication campaign in October, 324 events were organised by 225 organisations (Eurodesk multipliers and national coordinators) in 17 European countries.

OCT

The Autumn network meeting, held in Mollina, Spain, gathered around 43 Eurodesk colleagues from 29 countries. National coordinators spent a day together with around 50 multipliers who attended the multipliers seminar and celebrated the 25th anniversary of the association with networking activities and a dinner.

In the year of the 25th anniversary of Eurodesk, the Eurodesk Awards was relaunched. The initiative aims to acknowledge the outstanding projects Eurodesk multipliers organised in the past year. The awards ceremony was held during the Autumn network meeting.

During the Eurodesk AISBL General Assembly, Eurodesk Switzerland officially became a member of the Association.

NOV

In November, the Training Design Team finished the second module of the Eurodesk Qualifying Training Programme.



Mapping the Eurodesk network – eurodesk.eu goes live

The new eurodesk.eu website was released to the public early 2015. Its main functionality is an interactive map that acts as a digital business card giving face to the youth professionals working for Eurodesk in Europe. With the new eurodesk.eu site, Eurodesk aims to connect its expanding network of multipliers, as well as inform young people about local youth information points, making youth information close and accessible to them.

As the development work on the site was finished by the end of 2014, the main goal in 2015 was to map the personnel of national coordination offices and Eurodesk multipliers. By the end of the year there were more than 500 youth professionals featured on the site and the number is still increasing.

Each person has a profile with job function, spoken languages, hours of availability, description of tasks at the respected organisations and the area of expertise. The Eurodesk network can easily be contacted by young people looking for mobility information or youth workers wishing to cooperate with each other, via a contact form, their phone numbers, their websites or through their offices' addresses.

Sending a request to join the organisation as a multiplier has become smoother through the new website. Interested youth professionals can express their willingness to join Eurodesk on an online form in a few steps after they get to know more about the Eurodesk services dedicated to them at European level.

“It is great to see the new face of eurodesk.eu! On one map we can see the full strength of the Eurodesk network. Just a few clicks and we get in touch with national coordinators and multipliers. Eurodesk.eu is not only easy to use, but eye catching as well.”

Agnė Graikšaitė, Eurodesk Lithuania

Releasing the Last Minute Offers website

An important milestone was reached for Eurodesk in March 2015. A new service, the Last Minute Offers website was launched in the presence of European Commission representatives, the current Eurodesk president, former presidents and directors. The event took place at the 25th anniversary celebration of the organisation during the Spring network meeting in Brussels.

The Last Minute Offers (LMO) started out as a German project and was further developed to be a European initiative. The website is a free European multilingual database dedicated to the promotion of international learning mobility projects for young people directly in their language. LMO is based on a sending-hosting organisation system that provides a safe environment for young people to take part in European projects. The LMO is free to access and search for sending organisations and young people.

The Last Minute Offers website is available to browse at lastminute.eurodesk.eu.



Sharing knowledge within the network to improve Eurodesk services

Getting inspired through Network Meetings and the Multipliers Seminar

In total, 49 people from 32 different Eurodesk countries participated in the **Spring network meeting in Brussels, Belgium**. Several speakers gave input from the European Commission (DG Employment, DG Education and Culture), the European Youth Forum and JINT. Participants defined further developments in connection with Eurodesk initiatives in several working groups. Topics tackled were about the Programme Database, the Last Minute Offers, the European Youth Portal, the Time to Move campaign and the multipliers network.

During the meeting an Extraordinary General Assembly took place in which Macedonia was officially welcomed as a Eurodesk Association member. The 25th anniversary of Eurodesk did not go unnoticed either: this was celebrated with the former directors and staff of Eurodesk and external guests active in the youth field.

The agenda of the **Autumn network meeting in Mollina, Spain** was based on the Open Space methodology.



The method allowed the network to define the agenda together and include in it topics the network felt to be relevant to further improve Eurodesk tools. The event gathered around 43 Eurodesk colleagues from 29 countries. National coordinators spent a day together with around 50 multipliers who attended the multipliers seminar just before the network meeting and celebrated the 25th anniversary of the association with networking activities, a dinner and the Eurodesk Awards ceremony.

Mr. Harald Hartung, the Head of Unit of Youth Policy and Programme had a discussion with the network in a roundtable session about the state of play and perspectives in youth affairs. Also, as part of the Eurodesk AISBL General Assembly, Eurodesk Switzerland officially became a member of the Association.

Putting the Eurodesk Qualifying Training Programme into action

Increasing Eurodesk's training activities was a priority in 2015. Following the completion of the Eurodesk Qualifying Training Module 1 in 2014, the training design team continued the work with developing Module 2. The second part of the training manual puts international mobility programmes in focus. The activities contribute to the development of the multipliers roles as information providers, communicators and resource persons.

During the year, national coordinators in several countries organised trainings using Module 1 to give a basic knowledge of Eurodesk to multipliers. The trainings proved to be a great success all over Europe. At the end of 2015, Module 2 was finalised, giving an opportunity for multipliers to further improve their skills throughout 2016.

"The Eurodesk Qualifying Training Programme was very helpful in preparing the training for the first multipliers of Eurodesk Switzerland that took place in December 2015 in Solothurn. Even if not all modules were applicable, it provided a sound basic knowledge on which I could build upon and customise my training."

Filippo Buzzini, Eurodesk Switzerland

Promoting the Eurodesk network

Celebrating the champions of youth information via the Eurodesk Awards

In the year of the 25th anniversary of Eurodesk, the Eurodesk Awards initiative was relaunched. The Eurodesk Awards aims to acknowledge the outstanding projects Eurodesk multipliers organised in the past year. The awards ceremony was held during the Autumn network meeting in Mollina, Spain where the two winners (winner of the 'Offline Information Campaigns' and winner of the 'Online Information Campaigns') were crowned to be the champions of youth mobility information among a representative of the EU, national coordinators and multipliers from other countries.

The winner of the 'Offline Information Campaigns' category, Eurodesk – Europe Direct Comune di Trieste involved many partners at local, national and European level to its project and promoted possibilities within the Youth in Action program and the Erasmus+. 'InForma SVE / FVG Tour' aimed at reaching out to the potential beneficiaries of EVS by bringing information directly to young people throughout the Friuli Venezia Giulia region in Italy, where young people have more difficulties finding mobility information. Therefore, most of the actions have been realised at schools, associations, universities, youth information centres and in many other organisations that work with young people.

During the meetings with young people they talked about citizenship, active participation and the importance of cross-border cooperation. Attention was also given to the promotion of tools for the recognition of volunteering (Youth Pass) and the importance of language learning as a mean for better employability.

The organisation of the project was realised mainly by young people aged between 18 and 35, who have taken contacts with associations, organised the meetings, carried out the promotion on-line and on paper and spread the information about European opportunities that in many cases were first-hand experience. 11 ex EVS volunteers brought their testimonies about their volunteering experience to each meeting.

In total they carried out 45 info days in the four provinces of Friuli Venezia Giulia and a meeting in the province of Venice. They organised 26 training days at the offices of Eurodesk - Europe Direct. These trainings were attended by 325 young people. They involved almost 23.000 young people during the InForma SVE/FVG Tour.

The winner of the 'Online Information Campaigns' category, Bursa City Council Youth Assembly decided to remove the obstacles and grant access to EU learning and mobility opportunities for young people with disabilities. They identified two target groups: visually impaired and hearing-impaired youth.

For hearing impaired youth, they created an information film with sign language. It includes information about Erasmus+ Programmes, Eurodesk, European Youth Portal and 6 interviews with people who are beneficiaries of Erasmus+. An additional brochure with Braille alphabet has included general information about Erasmus + Programmes.

As part of the project, they also organised 2 workshops - one for visually impaired, and one for the hearing impaired. In total, 30 young people participated in the workshops.

The materials created during the project have been distributed to 101 youth NGO's, universities, public institutions in Turkey. They were also introduced to the public through a press meeting in Bursa City Council.

The project was funded by the Turkish National Agency Youth Programme.



Organising the 2nd edition of the 'Time to Move' visibility campaign



2015 marked the second edition of Eurodesk's flagship visibility campaign, 'Time to Move'. The initiative aimed at promoting the very local Eurodesk information points to young people as sources of mobility information and means of mobility guidance spots. During the two-week period of the communication campaign in October, 324 events were organised by 225 organisations (Eurodesk multipliers and national coordinators) in 17 European countries. The offline activities reached around 135 000 young people directly.

The campaign's website, timetomove.info provided online resources in the topics of studying, volunteering, working abroad and travelling. Through timetomove.info interested young people could also get comprehensive information about the upcoming events via an interactive map. During the period of the campaign 24 000 unique visitors interacted 19 000 times with the map.

The campaign was supported by an online competition hosted on Facebook. Young people were asked to send in postcards they created from their town or country. The technique to create the postcards was up to the participant to define. Eurodesk received more than 500 entries. The two winners, Caterina and Luigi, both from Italy won a 22-days continuous InterRail tickets to move around Europe.

**17 countries &
225 organisations**
participated in the 2015 edition of the
Time to Move campaign.

Throughout 2 weeks
**324 events reached
around
135 000 young people.**

The postcard contest received
521 entries.

Eurodesk France organised an information session on Facebook that aimed at informing young people on European mobility opportunities. This 2-days event was carried out by 14 regional multipliers who took turns online to answer young people's enquiries. The times were adapted to young people from overseas so they could also receive an answer in real time.

One of the multipliers from Eurodesk Bulgaria organised a series of events for students for a week. These events included mountain expeditions, bike tours, theatre visits etc. During the activities they got informed about the EYP, Erasmus+ and European mobility opportunities. Throughout the week 100 young people were reached.

A Eurodesk Spain multiplier from Melilla placed an information desk in a secondary school to provide counselling on mobility opportunities for students and teachers. 200 young people were reached in one day.

During Time to Move Wawrzyniec Pater, the coordinator of Eurodesk Poland presented the campaign in a student radio, Radio Campus, where he invited the audience to the Warsaw events organised with the cooperation of Erasmus+ National Agency.



Luigi, winner of the postcard contest

14 youth communities from 6 settlements in Western Transdanubia were involved in the “Suitcase-karaOK” project. The activity included travelling suitcases that started their journey from Győr and at each stop during an interactive discussion, young people took out and put into the suitcases a “present” or a “message”. These items were something in connection with travelling, Erasmus+, EVS, mobility, youth work etc. Additionally, every community stuck their own labels or logos on the suitcases.

Eurodesk Lithuania organised 24 Time to Move events that 328 people attended and more than 175 face-to-face questions were answered. The greatest achievement for them in 2015 was the visibility of the campaign. For the first time in the history of the Lithuanian Youth Council and Eurodesk, they were invited to the Lithuanian National Television news programme, the main broadcaster of Lithuania.

Some of the Croatian multipliers took a creative approach in informing young people, by organising guerrilla marketing activities. In Labin, volunteers of the local multiplier ‘Alfa Albona’ created cardboard models of a train and a rocket, which they were “driving” through the town symbolising mobility opportunities. The same volunteer took a road trip to towns in the area that do not have youth info points and directly informed young people on the streets about European opportunities. They reached around 160 young people through these activities.

2015 marked the 25th anniversary of German unity. In Autumn 1990 not only Germany was reunited - It also marked the overcoming of the decades of European division.

“The Time to Move campaign is a great opportunity for multipliers to take part in a common Eurodesk initiative by simply doing their day-to-day duties and tasks.

Małgorzata Piotrowska, Eurodesk Poland

In the framework of Time to Move, Eurodesk Rostock, Eurodesk Lauenburg and Europe Direct Kiel organised a project day and a Structured Dialogue event around this topic. At workshops, young people discussed the implications of borders and the consequences of the fall of the Berlin Wall. They discussed the requirements and conditions for living together in Europe and Germany and worked out recommendations for politicians. One of the main requests of the young people was an adjustment of the living conditions in the East and West Germany.

Eurodesk Slovakia took part in the greatest open-air music festival called “Pohoda” in Trenčín in July. The Eurodesk national centre, together with multipliers and the National Agency for Erasmus+ (youth and sport) had an information stand, where the interested young people were continuously informed about possibilities that the Erasmus+ programme offers to them. Young people were also invited to take short quizzes to check their knowledge of the European Union and Erasmus+.

In September, the Eurodesk Ireland network ran a national Time to Move event in Dublin, launched by the Minister for Social Protection Kevin Humphreys. It was attended by seventy participants - young people, youth organisations, training centres for early school leavers and guidance counsellors. The representatives of European information networks and services, such as Euroguidance, EURES and Europass were invited to hold information stands at the event.

Entries to the postcard contest



Collaborating within the network

Eurodesk France reached a total of 91 multipliers, covering all regions with multipliers in France.

In September 2015 Eurodesk Norway organised a gathering for the network of multipliers. Youth information workers from various regions of the country gathered to learn, exchange and discuss. On the agenda were possibilities of cooperation with the recently established EuroPeers network. There was also time for an update from ERYICA and of course the latest news from the local youth information centres. From Eurodesk Finland, Hilma Ruokolainen presented a Finnish study 'Hidden Competences' on how young people get international experiences and how these experiences define them.

Eurodesk Slovenia re-established the Eurodesk network of regional multipliers in 2015. 8 multipliers from 7 regions were selected and two meetings took place, based on the Eurodesk Qualifying Training Programmes.

In 2015, Eurodesk Czech Republic renewed the 'Agreement on Cooperation' for multipliers and the total number is now 24. Each multiplier holds a new Eurodesk certificate with a unique safety label.

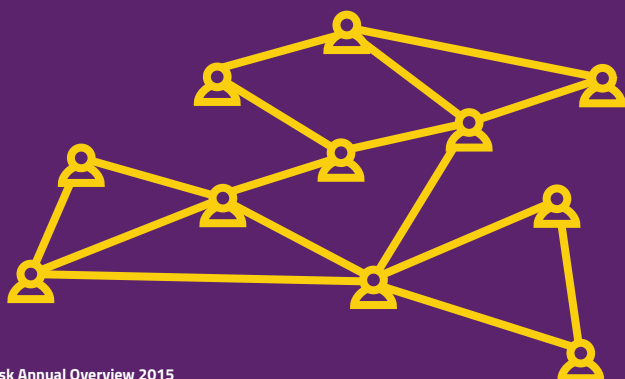
Center Lunaria from Turkey did a study visit in Italy in September 2015. During the study, visit 4 Multipliers of Eurodesk Turkey and the national coordinator visited Eurodesk Italy and some of the local information points in Italy in 3 different cities: Rome, Florence and Pisa. The main topic was peer matching of NGO's, public authorities and institutes working in the field of active participation, democratisation, youth work and youth

information. Following the study visit, the closure of the project was a best practice workshop in Antalya that was attended by the representatives of the information points from Italy. Lunaria, EYRICA, European Greens, Ministry of EU of Turkey were among the speakers at the event.

Eurodesk Hungary organised the 'Mobilize' international seminar on online/offline campaigning in relation to the Time to Move campaign in September. 20 participants from 7 Eurodesk countries (multipliers and national coordinators) took part in the 4-day long seminar in Budapest.

10 Croatian multipliers had a chance to visit Eurodesk centres and local multipliers' offices in other countries. The study visits were organised in cooperation with national Eurodesk centres in Ireland, Hungary, Spain, Germany, Poland and Italy. This was a great chance for Croatian multipliers to learn about how youth information flows in other countries, to share best-practice experiences and to develop international partnerships.

As in previous years, there were close cooperation between Czech and Slovakian multipliers as well as Eurodesk national coordinators. In November 2015, Eurodesk Czech Republic organised a training for multipliers based on the Qualifying Training programme, in cooperation with Eurodesk Slovakia.



Carrying out projects with other youth organisations



In November, Eurodesk Norway in collaboration with EURES, Europass, Euroguidance and the Association of Norwegian Students Abroad (ANSA) organised a seminar for more than 50 counsellors from schools and career centres on how to advise young people about international opportunities. The seminar was part of a 2-days conference on international activities in schools, organised by the Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Education. The various tools offered by our organisations and networks, such as the European Youth Portal and the new eurodesk.eu site were explained. A representative of a major recruiting agency (Abelia) explained how they value international experiences when they match employers and employees.

The Eurodesk Poland editors of the European Youth Portal co-operated with another youth portal – dzialasz.pl, managed by the Centre of Civic Education. The co-operation involved the exchange of texts and ideas. The European Youth Portal receives additional support from the New Media Foundation, the organisation dedicated to media education. Thanks to the Foundation, the EYP contributors have many opportunities to take part in journalism workshops and meetings with experts.

In October, Eurodesk Flanders organised the seventh edition of the 'Go Strange Information Fair' in Antwerp. This event was carried out in cooperation with EURES. Almost 80 organisations were represented and promoted their offers and more than 1500 visitors were informed about international learning mobility. Visitors could attend info sessions and get their CV screened. 40 young people shared their international experiences at different sessions at the fair.

The Université de Liège with the help of Eurodesk Wallonie organised a roundtable on developing the skills of young people abroad in October 2015.

After several meetings with EURES First Job, Eurodesk Luxembourg organised a presentation about European mobility programmes for young people that are registered under the unemployment scheme at the national labor administration. After one month of our presentation, 3 young people found a traineeship in another European country within the framework of Erasmus+.

In December, Eurodesk Denmark participated at the Europass 10-years anniversary seminar: Europass CV and

European career event hosted by Europass Denmark. The event promoted the Europass CV and targeted unemployed graduates. 50 young people participated. At the seminar a representative from the EURES center in Odense also held a presentation about the mobility possibilities in Europe. Materials about gribverden.dk were distributed at the seminar.

In 2015, the focus for Eurodesk UK was to identify key organisations from across the UK that would act as core representatives for the multiplier network. This was done through a stakeholder-mapping exercise conducted by the Eurodesk Officer and through working with the Erasmus+ UK Sector Consultative Group for Youth. Meetings have been held with CWVYS in Wales, UK Youth in London and the British Youth Council.

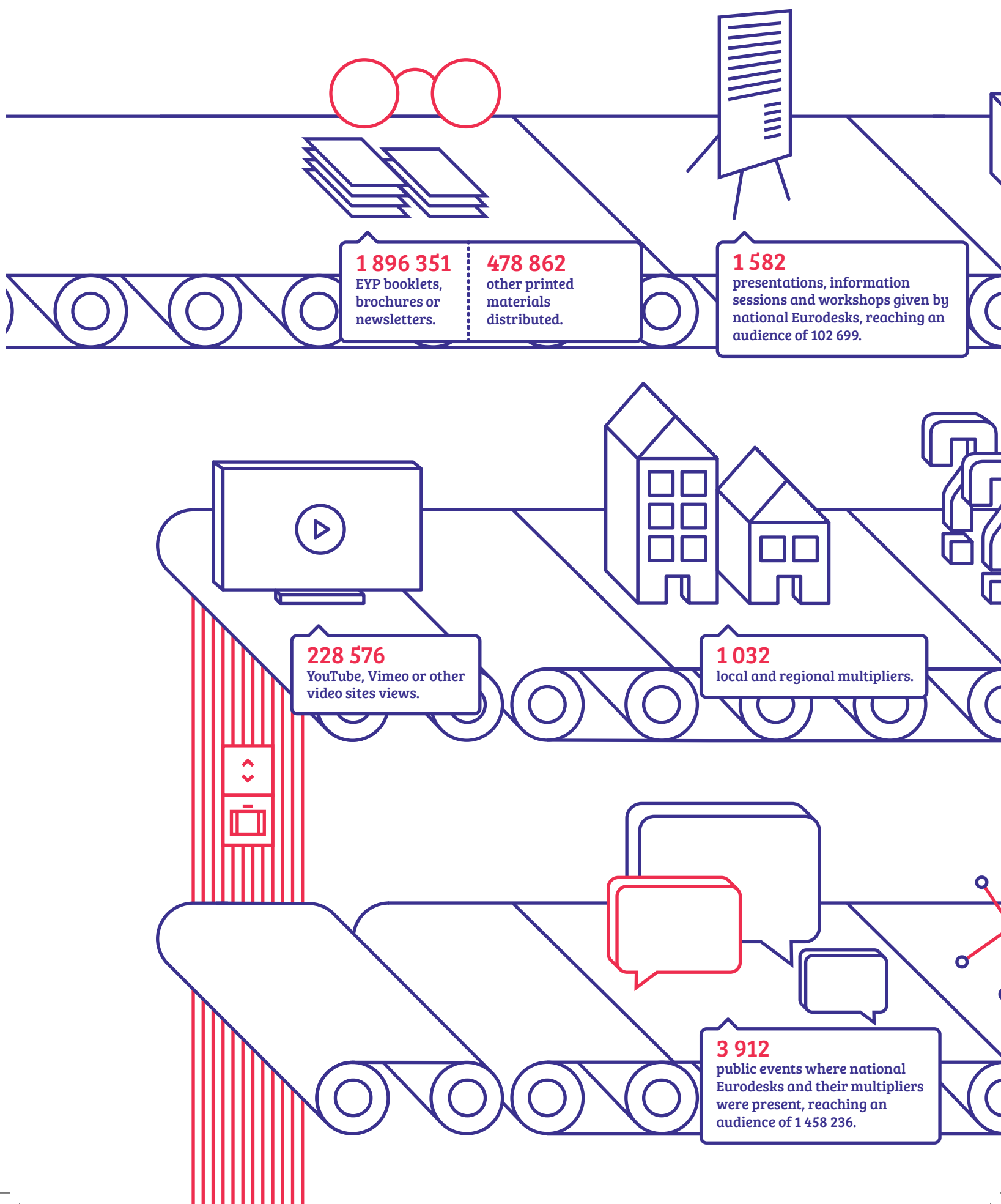
Eurodesk Slovakia carried out the information-and-consulting days/seminars called 'Coffee to go'. The objective was to reveal the wide range of possibilities and opportunities that the Erasmus+ programme and Eurodesk offers to young people across Slovakia, to motivate them to prepare their own project and become part of/active in educational mobility. This was done with the cooperation of the NA E+ in the field of youth and sport and thematic Youth Centres who are the NA's regional points situated in the seven Slovakia's regional capitals (except Bratislava).

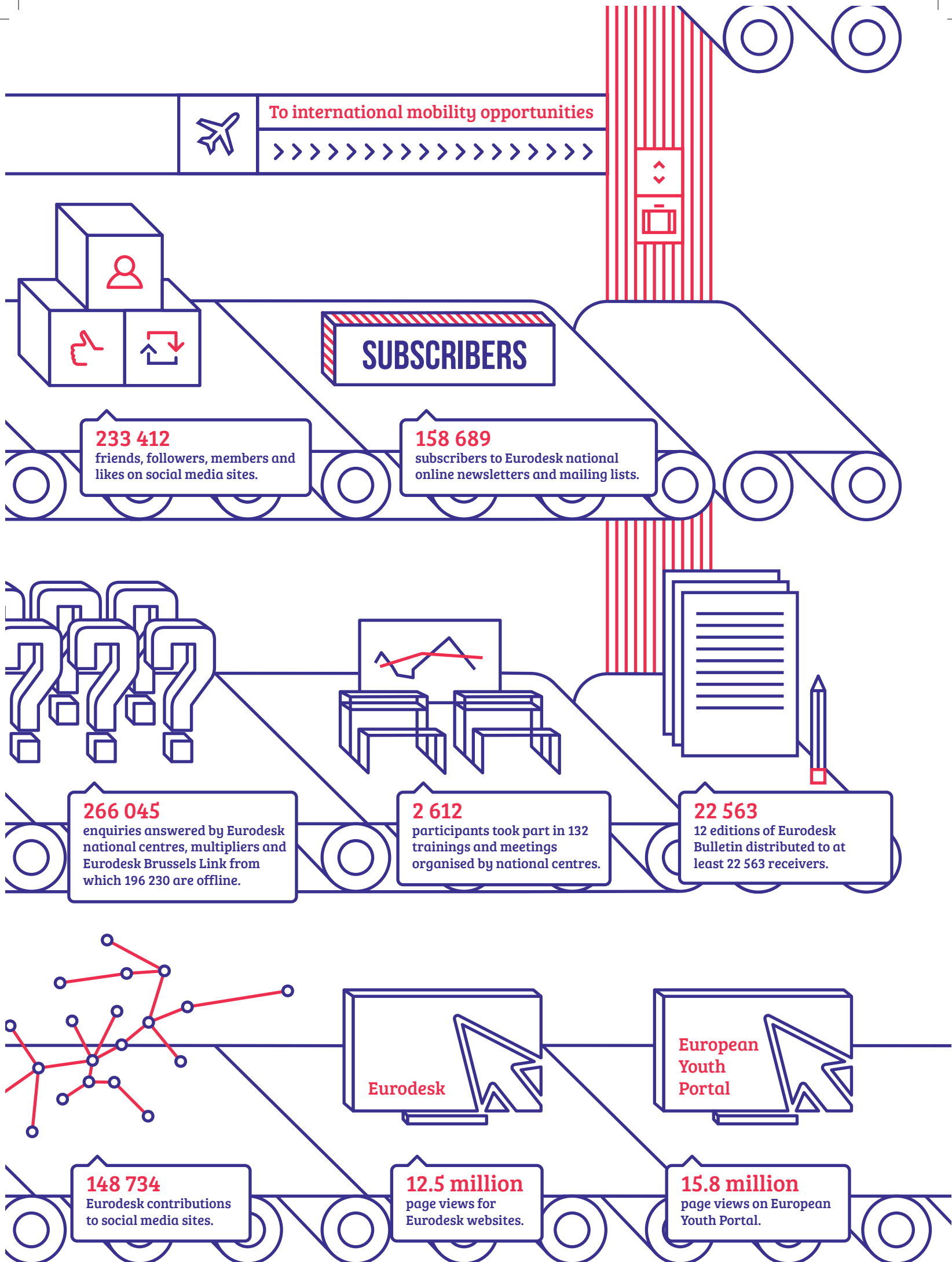
Eurodesk Italy, in cooperation with the Italian National Agency for Youth, organised 6 events called 'Info Day' (lasting 4 hours each) about general information on the Erasmus+. In addition, 4 more activities, called 'Training Day' (lasting 7 hours each) were organised. These were addressed to representatives of organisations willing to enhance their knowledge about drafting projects.

In 2015, the Eurodesk Ireland Coordinator was involved in the judges' panel of the Europe Direct Blanchardstown annual competition 'Soapbox' with the theme "Charity begins at home".

CIMO's information services have made it a 'tradition' to organise twice a year a mini fair (3 hours) for young people who are interested in studying, doing an internship or taking a gap year abroad. Eurodesk Finland is always there to market the European Youth Portal and to answer questions about the European Voluntary Service. Other organisations and actors such as the Fulbright Center or Goethe-Institut are also present and offer their expertise.

Eurodesk in numbers 2015





Contributing to the European Youth Portal (EYP)

Powered by the Eurodesk network, the European Youth Portal offers comprehensive multilingual information about European opportunities for young people, covering the fields of action of the EU Youth Strategy (education and training, employment and entrepreneurship, health and well-being, participation, voluntary activities, social inclusion, youth and the world, creativity and culture) and travelling. This information is available in 27 languages for 33 countries.

Eurodesk continued to support the European Commission in the further development towards an interactive portal fostering youth participation online and widely promoted the portal, via offline and online activities.

There were

10480 contributions

added to the European Youth Portal from the Eurodesk network in 28 languages.

4297
articles

3249
news

2934
events

Eurodesk answered

2112 enquiries

coming from young people through the European Youth Portal.





Eurodesk Switzerland established a partnership with Tink.ch in November 2015, an online and print magazine from and for young people, for the provision of articles for the EYP. Three articles from Tink.ch were published in four languages on the EYP in December 2015.

In 2015 Eurodesk Netherlands attended 6 national fairs and information meetings. They showed young people a step-by-step manual on how to apply to EVS. The European Youth Portal's Volunteering Database.

Eurodesk Latvia created 1000 pencils with the EYP logo and the EYP web address. 500 special notebooks were also created that includes information about the EYP, Eurodesk and Erasmus+.

Eurodesk Campo de Criptana, Spain organised the 'Quixotic II Youth Meeting' between an Erasmus association from the University Complutense of Madrid and the youth information office of Criptana in April. 55 young people from Lithuanian, Brazil, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Ireland, Germany, France and 20 local youth exchanged experiences and talked about their countries and cultures.

Eurodesk Slovenia organised a training for 24 young journalists. They were trained in journalism as a means of active citizenship. Their articles were published on the European Youth Portal later. Young journalists were also covering the events and trainings organised by the Erasmus+ Youth in Action National Agency and these articles were also published on the EYP later.

Eurodesk Sweden carried out a campaign in cooperation with www.ungdomar.se, a youth site with over 80 000 unique visits each week. They wrote articles to each EYP theme and they published 24 interviews. All the contributions were promoted on ungdomar.se.

In May, Eurodesk Denmark hosted an EVS event together with the Erasmus+ youth unit from the National Agency of Denmark. The event targeted young people from 17-30. Eurodesk Denmark held a presentation about the European Youth Portal and the EVS database and they also handed out information materials about the two topics. 40 young people were introduced to the EVS database on the European Youth Portal. The event was live streamed

229 times from 199 addresses. The video is accessible on the website of the ministry, gribverden.dk, on Facebook and the EYP. EYP was promoted in a brochure named "Zeig deine Talente! Und nutze sie für deine Karriere" in Austria. The print product focused on helping young people to identify their skills gained in non-formal settings and also promoted the Youthpass and the European Skills-Pass. The brochure was a success and had to be re-printed for a 2nd edition.

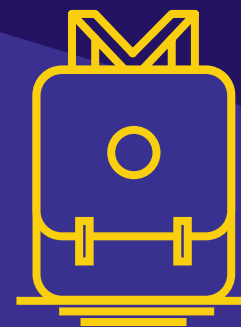
Eurodesk Romania promoted the activities run by youth organisations within the Non Formal Education Day 2015. This annual event is launched by the Romanian National Agency. A total of 132 events promoting non-formal learning, in 36 out of 41 Romanian counties took place. Some events were also organised in the framework of Cluj-Napoca – the European Youth Capital.

Eurodesk Germany started to build a youth editorial team for the EYP. In December a call for applications was launched and nine young junior editors were chosen to form the team, starting their work in 2016.

In September, Eurodesk UK organised an information event in Edinburgh alongside the Erasmus+ UK annual conference. 14 delegates attended; they received a presentation about the services provided by Eurodesk UK, including the European Youth Portal, and had the opportunity to network with colleagues from the youth sector.

Eurodesk Finland started a sort of blog on the European Youth Portal. The blogger is a 15-years-old boy called Miro who is the initiator of a youth exchange in a small rural municipality in central Finland. The blog tells the story of the youth exchange from day one until today.

Spreading the word on European mobility opportunities



Taking part in the European Youth Week (EYW)

Between the 7 April and 10 May 2015, Eurodesk took part in the organisation of the European Youth Week events all over Europe. The particular focus of the events in 2015 was on the parts of the European programmes or initiatives that aimed at “unlocking young people’s potential towards employment and for society at large”. Eurodesk multipliers were the largest identified group of organisers of the EYW.

Young people around Europe were generating inspiring and innovative ideas through the Ideas Lab, an initiative organised during the European Youth Week. Topics tackled were: youth unemployment, boosting youth entrepreneurship, encouraging young people to be active in civic life, and engaging young Europeans in international development issues. National coordinators helped their National Agencies for Youth to carry out these initiatives all over Europe.

In the first half of 2015, Latvia held the presidency of the Council of the EU. Therefore, Eurodesk Latvia made a special effort in the closing event of the European Youth Week. The event was held in Riga in a railway museum. The ceremony started with an official opening, where choirs were singing, involving all the participants. Later, young people could participate in games, try to be a youth guard or street gymnast, listen to emerging bands and singers, watch performance of dancers and participate in the workshops ran by EVS volunteers and former volunteers. At the end of the event the special guest rock band “Dzelzs Vilks” gave a concert. In total there were around 430 participants.

Eurodesk Norway organised the national leg of the Ideas Lab. 25 youngsters aged between 15 and 28 were recruited from former Youth in Action beneficiaries to discuss European policies and agree on a recommendation for the European Parliament. During the event, Mads Andreas Danielsen from Bærum was chosen to represent the Norwegian Group in Brussels during the European Youth Week. The event took place in Oslo in March.

Tallinna Spordi-ja Noorsooamet, a Eurodesk multiplier, organised a big EVS promotion tour called ‘EVS in Motion’. Around 10 EVS volunteers visited 18 youth centres all around Estonia to carry out practical workshops to young people and promote EVS to them. Around 250 young people were reached with the activity. Two of the volunteers also took part in ‘The day of voluntary deeds’ in May in Parnu town to give out info materials and share their experiences about EVS.

In 2015, Belgium organised the 2nd European Youth Work Convention. Eurodesk Brussels Link was a communication partner of the event and promoted the convention through its channels. In preparation of and following on the convention Eurodesk Flanders organised discussions tackling the topics of youth work. Eurodesk Brussels Link

joined forces with Eurodesk Flanders in having 4 interviews with former EVS volunteers. Later the video materials were cut into short videos that formed a YouTube series called ‘EVS in 5 minutes’. The series was created as a contribution to the European Youth Week.

In May, Konya Kılıçarslan Youth Center participated in an international student meeting that was organised by the Turkish Youth Foundation. The event took place at the Konya Metropolitan Municipality Kilicarslan Youth Center. During the activity, students from different countries introduced their own countries. Later, at an information stand, young people were informed about Erasmus+. Altogether about 600 young people were reached.

It was the third occasion that Eurodesk Hungary organised the Youth Parliament Day which involved more than 200 young people in discussions with politicians in the Hungarian Parliament. With the support of the Hungarian



government, 11 local projects were implemented in 21 different cities by 31 Eurodesk local partner organisations and many other NGOs, involving more than 2000 young people in different activities. Events included information days, interactive games, competitions, festivals, conferences and more. At the end of the week, more than 100 young people travelled from 4 regions of Hungary to Budapest, to the central event, the Europe Day Festival on the Margaret Island. The groups were led by local and regional multipliers. Eurodesk Hungary co-organised the programmes for the Europe Day with the National Agency of Erasmus+ Youth. In the framework of a street festival, Eurodesk Hungary had an information tent with a lot of interactive activities and invited young performers to the cultural stage programmes too.

Eurodesk Cyprus coordinated the first National Youth Conference held in May, which was the starting point for establishing a Youth Strategy in Cyprus, and was included in the events of the European Youth Week. The event was supported by the European Commission's Representation Office in Cyprus, the President of the Republic of Cyprus, the Minister of Education and the Council of Europe. 300 young people and their representatives had the opportunity to have discussions with government officers and politicians in thematic workshops. The workshops reflected the eight fields of action of the European Youth Strategy.

The Croatian Eurodesk network organised the same type of activity during the European Youth Week - the Living Library. The original concept of the Council of Europe was adjusted to fit the topic of mobility: the 'books' were young people who went through some mobility programme and who could engage in a personal dialogue with the audience and talk about their experiences, while "dictionaries" were representatives of organisations or institutions which could offer concrete information about how to participate in mobility schemes. The Living Library was organised in

10 cities around Croatia and reached around 300 young participants. This activity proved to be a great tool to inform young people about mobility possibilities and in the same time fight any prejudices they might have about going abroad.

Slam, the bi-monthly free newspaper for young people in Luxembourg had a special edition that was focusing on the European Youth Week and the promotion of Erasmus +. Young people were informed about the actions of Erasmus+, and had the opportunity to read articles about experiences of young people already participated in the programme. The articles were written by ex-participants of European mobility programmes.

Van Governorate, an EU Project Coordinator Center organised some activities named "Hey Youth! Europe in Campus". They set up a Eurodesk stand and gave information about Erasmus+ and EVS. After the information sessions, they organised activities with their youth volunteers at Yüzüncü Yıl University, Turkey. The activities included a kite festival, birdcage festival, planting, rock concerts and a Chinese lantern festival. 90 students attended the activities.

During the European Youth Week Eurodesk Liechtenstein organised an 'open house' afternoon in their youth information centre together with the National Agency. Around 25 former and future project partner, project initiators, EVS volunteers, au pairs attended the event. The event brought an interesting discussion about mobility and how can mobility change lives.

The youth information centre of Eurodesk German-speaking community of Belgium organised two events together with the Jugendbüro / National Agency Erasmus+ to promote mobility opportunities and to inform young people about the European Youth portal and Erasmus+. During the first event an information booth was placed on a local market. On the second event a Movie Night took place in the local cinema with the movie 'L'Auberge Espagnole'.

The NA in co-operation with the Eurodesk supported the implementation of the European Youth Week at national level by launching a call for local, regional or national events to take place during the week under the slogan "Kaiken mailman nuorille!" with the aim to promote young people's influence and democratic participation in local communities and to offer meaningful experiences of participation and viewpoints on the opportunities for being heard. The Youth Policy Division of the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture allocated additional operational funds to the NA to support this call. In total 24 events in different parts of the country were supported involving around 3 800 participants, which for many was the first ever contact to a European programme.



Organising and participating in events

Eurodesk Switzerland co-organised an open doors-day with the Youth in Action team during an EVS-training in Losone in August. During this evening, EVS-volunteers presented themselves through interactive games and local young people could attend the event, talk to the volunteers and get informed about European opportunities. Eurodesk Switzerland held a presentation and was present with a stand. About 30 young people attended the event.

Eurodesk Netherlands reached over 4900 young people and their parents at the "BuitenlandBeurs" in November, a big event for everyone who wants to do 'something' abroad. It was held at the Dutch Trade Center in Utrecht.

A Eurodesk France multiplier from Lyon organised a 2-day forum on mobility which attracted more than 2500 visitors from the whole region. This yearly forum is jointly organised with the local Eurodesk multipliers in the Lyon region, and takes place each year in a different city of the region.

Eurodesk Estonia carried out a campaign "Borrow a Volunteer for a Day" to celebrate International Volunteers Day and to promote EVS among organisations. Altogether 17 organisations from all over Estonia took part in the campaign, especially youth centres and schools from rural areas. Altogether 24 volunteers were 'borrowed' during the week. There were two interviews about EVS published: an interview with a hosting organisation and an interview with a current EVS volunteer in Estonia. Both of the interviews appeared in the local media and the one with the volunteer also in the national media.

In 2015 the officers of Eurodesk Poland national centre and Eurodesk Poland multipliers delivered 339 mobility lessons and workshops in which 6961 young people participated. The 5 types of classes – Euro-opportunities, Eurovolunteering, Eurowork, Eurostudying, and Euroactivation – were delivered on demand of schools, colleges, universities and organisations working with young people.

Eurodesk Flanders took part in the SID-in, a study information fair for students from the last grade of secondary schools. The SID-ins are a 3-day event in every Flemish province. In total, more than 60.000 young people visited SID-in. Eurodesk officers had a face-to-face chat with more than 1500 youngsters and distributed an information guide on international learning mobility.

A Eurodesk Turkey multiplier, The System and Generation Association continued their project called 'Youth Caravan'.

The project is ongoing since 2008. The caravan serves as a vessel to spread and share European youth information and EVS opportunities among young people. The caravan has been visiting cities, towns, villages, universities, high schools and festivals.

Eurodesk Hungary and the Erasmus+ National Agency for Youth run a series of dissemination events related to good practice in international mobility. At these so-called Cafe+ events Eurodesk Hungary invited beneficiaries of projects based on certain topics, and organised panel discussions among former participants of projects and representatives of different NGOs. In November a Cafe+ event was focusing on transnational youth initiatives and social innovation. Around 80 young people participated at the event.

Eurodesk Lithuania participated in 3 summer festivals: "Galapagai", "Bliuzo naktys", "LijOT vasara'15", and reached about 2000 young people.

To empower young people in their transition period from education to the labour market, Eurodesk Cyprus organised two career academies together with their multipliers. 200 young people participated in the events that took place in Limassol. The academies focused on strengthening young people's self confidence and soft skills whilst providing them valuable tips and information for coping during a job interview and writing a good CV and recommendation letter. Young people were also informed on different European programmes and services such as Europass, Your First Eures Job and EPSO-EU Careers. Via inspirational speeches and workshops on entrepreneurship and innovation Eurodesk Cyprus aspired to promote the entrepreneurial mindset amongst young people. A video was created that will be used for the promotion of the next events.

Eurodesk Luxembourg participated in the National Student Fair with a presence in 2 stands. The Erasmus + and the National Youth Information Center stands ensured our visibility and permitted us to discuss and present our actions to more young people. Promotional materials were distributed. Representatives from higher education institutions from different countries, career guidance experts were on hand to give advice on education paths and career choices. In the stand of the National Youth Information Centre, a telephone box was installed. Young people could call via skype or chat with the Eurodesk partners that were not represented at the fair (e.g. Cyprus, Estonia, Latvia etc.) and ask their question about studying and working in that country.

Eurodesk Czech Republic took part in an Open Air Festival called 'Day of Europe' organised by the European Commission Representation in the Czech Republic in May. Eurodesk Czech Republic attended altogether 6 fairs and 2 open air festivals aimed at students and/or young people.

In June, Eurodesk Denmark participated at a seminar (Seminar om international studentermobilitet) hosted by the Danish Euroguidance centre about students' international



mobility (together with ENIC/NARIC) in Odense. The seminar targeted the guidance counsellors from the Regional Studyguidance Centers in Denmark and counsellors from eGuidance. At the event, information materials and merchandise were distributed and a presentation was held for the 59 participants.

"Youth at Work" was a big event for young people that took place in the region of Piedmont in North Italy: Verbania, Omegna and Domodossola from 5-8 May 2015. Aimed at 15-30 year olds, this three-day event provided young people, their families and their teachers with a rare chance to discover opportunities of mobility abroad through open air info-desks, set in the main squares of the 3 towns involved. Young people had the opportunity to experience and express creativity through the staging of various artistic performances (break dance, dj sets and graffiti). Mobility wasn't the only theme of the event as the info-desks were equipped also with professionals offering information on: the Youth Guarantee, training opportunities, how to write a successful CV, LinkedIn and other online job-search tools. The event was organised in cooperation with the Public Employment Service, local Training Agencies and a Digital Champion. Youth at Work ensured visitors got a chance to discover what future opportunities were available for young people, in a fun, inspiring and interactive way.

In May the Eurodesk Ireland coordinator presented Eurodesk, mobility opportunities for young people in Europe and the European Youth Portal to 130 young people, secondary school teachers and librarians at an event organised in cooperation with Europe Direct in Mountmellick and Mountrath, Co. Laoise. We also promoted mobility opportunities to young people at the National Conference of the NYCI and at the Leargas Forum in December.

Sharing information via publications

Eurodesk Norway contributed to a campaign in Dagbladet, one of the biggest national newspapers in Norway. They had a one-page article promoting the European Voluntary Service in the thematic campaign paper 'The travel of your dreams' (Drømmereisen).

At the end of the year Eurodesk Estonia participated in putting together a magazine to promote international opportunities in cooperation with EURES, Europass, EuroGuidance, Erasmus+ National Agency and different student exchange program organisations. The magazine can be found at www.europass.ee/europassi-ajakiri.

Eurodesk Sweden produced communication materials about Erasmus+ in cooperation with the NA for Erasmus+ Youth – a reprint of the successful Erasmus+ brochure, printed in 2000 copies. Equally, a project process map and two short films on the application process in Erasmus+ and the final report process, the latter two with over 500 views together. In cooperation with a PR firm, a presentation concept of Erasmus+ to young people and people who work with young people was produced.

Eurodesk Czech Republic published four regular editions of the bulletin called 'Mozaika'. The publication was about opportunities for young people in Erasmus+ youth projects, trainings and other youth related topics like the European Youth Week or the European Voluntary Service. 'Mozaika' had 3 extras editions about Norway grants, Erasmus+ sport and EPALE.

Initiating online projects

In October Eurodesk Netherlands renewed the website www.go-europe.nl. The website reaches around 3000 unique visitors a month.

Eurodesk Slovenia created a new national Eurodesk website integrated on the common website of the Institute, together with the NA E+ Youth in Action and SALTO SEE website. It is structured to be most useful for multipliers, with topics about the quality of information and how to achieve them, resources on information of young people and the EU, what is new in the youth policy section, main programmes for mobility of young people and news on calls and competitions for young people. The webpage is available at www.eurodesk.si.

The #newexperiences is an attitude campaign on volunteering (initiated by the communication intern of Eurodesk Hungary) launched at the opening event of the Time to Move campaign. The aim of the campaign was to raise awareness of international mobility through online community building tools: by using the hashtag #newexperiences anyone could share their own achievements in doing something new. The campaign had a blog with posts by EVS volunteers currently on their EVS projects. The blog was very popular: 28 posts were published during the two-month campaign period, with a total of 8500 page views. The campaign reached 8000 people on Facebook, the most popular blog post was read by 1250 people.

Eurodesk Lithuania continued a tradition to organise a summer mobility campaign that seeks to provide information on various ways to spend the summer meaningfully. The campaign focused on volunteering, seasonal work, travel in Europe, summer festivals and summer camps. The event was developed on social media. The main tool became an interactive question-answer applet, based on test type questions. The answers were the activities young people can do during the summer time. During the campaign this gadget was used by 2 494 young people 12 585 times. In general, the applet was used by 2 578 young people 12 840 times.

In the autumn, Eurodesk Denmark organised a three-week campaign to raise awareness of the website and to spread information to even more young people. Three videos on mobility opportunities for students at higher education abroad and the benefits in this context were produced (1: A student abroad, 2: Employers praising studying abroad, 3: The current Minister encouraging young students to go abroad – all available on the Grib Verden Facebook profile) along with posts, competitions, infographics etc. on the Grib Verden Facebook profile. The posts were vividly 'liked' and shared amongst the young people who also participated in the competitions. In connection to the campaign, postcards and merchandise were produced and sent to the international offices at the higher educational institutions for distribution. The number of 'likes' increased with 9% during the three weeks campaign. This suggests that campaigns like this makes a difference.

All Eurodesk Austria multipliers are keen on channelling the idea of mobility opportunities on their websites. In mid-2015 their multiplier in Vorarlberg started a new format. They created a website with a blog (www.ahamomente.at) sharing experiences of young people who worked, travelled and studied abroad.

Eurodesk Germany launched the new layout of the mobility portal, www.rausvonzuhause.de. They made the website responsive, adapted it to the Eurodesk corporate identity, and included eurodesk.tv into the page.



Spreading the word on European mobility opportunities

Updating the media about mobility programmes



A promotional article was sent about the Last Minute Offers platform to a school media dispatch, from the Foundation where Eurodesk Switzerland is based. The article reached 142 school and education media as well as 37 cantonal exchange authorities. The platform was presented on the school-paper of the Canton of Sankt Gallen as well as on the national job-counselling magazine 'Panorama' (in German and French).

Eurodesk France in the Reunion Island made the promotion of their services and of the EVS in the regional newspaper called 'Le quotidien', issued in September.

Eurodesk Bulgaria had an invitation to the "btv radio" show 'Youth for Youth' at the radio station '101.1FM' during 2015. Colleagues of the national centre talked about what is Eurodesk, its services, EVS, Erasmus+ and actual mobility opportunities.

In 2015 the words, Eurodesk Latvia or the European Youth Portal was mentioned in 79 different publications – 43 press articles, 7 TV programmes, 3 radio programmes and 26 online publications.

The Multipliers Seminar and the Network Meeting held in Mollina, Spain were mentioned in local media newspapers.

During the European Youth Week, a scarecrow theme park was opened in Estonia. The idea and the implementation came from local pupils from Sadala village. There were altogether 28 scarecrows in the theme park and each scarecrow represented one European Union country. The idea of the park was to teach young people about the different European Union countries in an alternative way. The news about opening this park ended up in local newspapers, as well as national TV news channels. Altogether 130 young people attended the opening event.

Lukasz Smogorowski, the Eurodesk Poland Centre Research and information manager presented the mobility programme for schools in TV Polonia, a Polish international TV station.

Eurodesk Wallonia is responsible for the youth section of the W+B magazine published every two months online at www.wbi.be and in print. They promoted international mobility programs through articles highlighting examples of good practice.

Eurodesk Liechtenstein had an article in the youth newspaper 'Flash' about the network's 10-year anniversary. This youth newspaper has a circulation of 20 000 exemplars and it is sent out to all households in Liechtenstein. (Just for comparison – Liechtenstein has 37 000 inhabitants.)

Eurodesk Cyprus was regularly hosted at the 'Youth Voice' radio show at the radio station of the Cyprus University of Technology.

The Erasmus+ National Agency of Romania concluded a 1-year partnership with Cultural Romanian Radio – a radio broadcasted nationally – with 36 short interviews about Erasmus+. Eurodesk Romania had two interventions where they promoted different European mobility opportunities as well as the European Youth Portal.

Eurodesk Germany had the opportunity to speak as an expert on international school exchanges to a popular morning show by a national broadcaster, ZDF.



Every Wednesday a youth organisation gives an interview in two German-speaking local radio stations in Belgium. The youth information centre of Eurodesk German-speaking community of Belgium talked about several topics during the year, e.g. 'Interrupting studies – what can I do now?', 'Preparing for job interviews', 'Children's rights'.

Eurodesk Italy was hosted by the national TV Rai – Regione every week. Each time a mobility opportunity project was presented to young people. Just after the TV spot, the number of visitors to their website increased and the numbers of enquiries received also got higher.

Distributing information about European policies



The national working group on the Structured Dialogue in Croatia had a very successful year. By creating a new, playful visual identity and a youth-friendly campaign, it managed to attract a large number of young people, eager to share their opinions. All together, more than 2000 young people participated in consultations organised at local, regional and national level, as well as through an on-line questionnaire. 20 new local coordinators were trained on how to conduct consultations with young people, so the national working group is expecting an even bigger reach in the next cycle. As a part of the national working group, Eurodesk additionally promoted the process of Structured Dialogue through the European Youth Portal, newsletter, social media and other channels.

Eurodesk Sweden works closely with Communicating Europe, a network dedicated to EU information. It includes the Swedish Europe Direct Contact Points and is coordinated by the Swedish Representation for the European Commission. Through this network, in addition to the network of Eurodesk multipliers and the National Working Group for the Structured Dialogue, Eurodesk Sweden informed multipliers working with EU information about the EU Youth Strategy and the latest developments in EU cooperation in the youth field. This was done through the yearly network meeting of Communication Europe where Eurodesk participates along with approximately 80 representatives of Europe Direct Contact Points, public authorities, NGOs, etc.

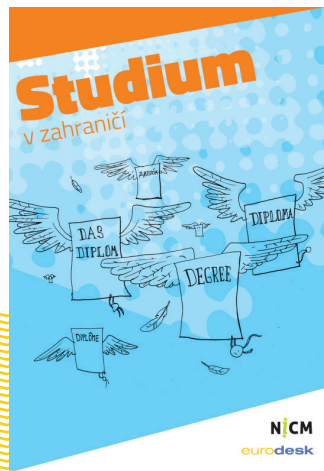
Eurodesk Romania was present at the National GALA for Structured Dialogue, in Bucharest in November. With over 100 participants, mainly young people, Eurodesk had the chance to give out flyers and posters. Direct consultation was also provided on the spot.

Exclusively for the European Youth Week, Eurodesk Estonia interviewed Marju Lauristin, a member of the European Parliament of Estonia. She provided her ideas and feedback about international possibilities for young people. The interview was translated into English and published on the EYP as well. Also the European best youth projects and the award event in Brussels were covered. Some of the news can be found here: <http://euroopa.noored.ee/uudised/euroopanootenadal/>

Skill development to find employability is one of the major concerns of the EU Policy. In this perspective one of our multipliers, Abdullah Gül University, Turkey, came up with a project called "Generation Y's Virtual Guide to Skill Development and Personal Branding in Social Media". Together with Sabanci University's Career & Internship Office, they will coordinate this international project which aims to support Generation Y's employability. The project will help students to gather top employability skills and train them in promoting themselves to employers through effective use of social media. The project will last 36 months and Abdullah Gül University will contribute various project activities.



Publication library



Network contacts

Eurodesk Brussels Link

Scotland House
Rond-Point Schuman 6
B-1040 Brussels, Belgium

Phone: +32 2 282 83 84
Fax: + 32 2 282 83 90

info@eurodesk.eu
www.eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Austria
eurodeskat@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Belgium,
Flemish Community
eurodeskbe@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Belgium,
French Community
eurodeskbe@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Belgium,
German Community
eurodeskbe@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Bulgaria
eurodeskbg@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Croatia
eurodeskhr@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Cyprus
eurodeskcy@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Czech Republic
eurodeskcz@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Denmark
eurodeskdsk@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Estonia
eurodeskee@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Finland
eurodeskfi@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk France
eurodeskfr@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Germany
eurodeskde@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Greece
eurodeskel@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Hungary
eurodeskhu@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Iceland
eurodeskis@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Ireland
eurodeskie@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Italy
eurodeskit@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Latvia
eurodeskiv@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Liechtenstein
eurodeskli@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Lithuania
eurodesklt@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Luxembourg
eurodeskig@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Macedonia
eurodeskmk@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Malta
eurodeskmt@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Netherlands
eurodesknl@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Norway
eurodeskno@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Portugal
eurodeskpt@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Poland
eurodeskpl@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Romania
eurodeskro@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Slovakia
eurodeskksk@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Slovenia
eurodesksi@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Spain
eurodeskes@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Sweden
eurodeskse@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Switzerland
eurodeskch@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk Turkey
eurodesktr@eurodesk.eu

Eurodesk United Kingdom
eurodeskuk@eurodesk.eu



"Eurodesk is a point of knowledge and projects for young people.

This is mainly due to the transparency of their website and a database of information about funds/grants, studies and projects. When I was 16, one of the articles published on the Eurodesk website revolutionised my world and a couple of days later I started my 1,5 month EVS project in the Balkans. The information from the website was definitely enough for me to make my decision about this adventure. Since that day I regularly use the Eurodesk website, because I can find a lot of useful information there."

Justyna Opoka

"I am sending you this message just before flying off to Australia for a one-year working-holiday. I would like to thank Eurodesk France at CIDJ for all the useful advice and guidance I got during our face-to-face talks. The discussions helped me to get an opportunity to have a wonderful experience in Cork in the framework of the Leonardo programme. To fly away towards the unknown is a wonderful experience but sometimes it can be also destabilising. Eurodesk France at CIDJ provided me with very good tools which helped me to prepare myself. Thanks again!"

Robin Riffis



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