

CALL FOR EVIDENCE FOR AN INITIATIVE (without an impact assessment)	
TITLE OF THE INITIATIVE	2022 European Year of Youth – achievements and way forward
LEAD DG - RESPONSIBLE UNIT	DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture - Unit B.3: Youth, Volunteer Solidarity and Traineeships Office
LIKELY TYPE OF INITIATIVE	Non-legislative
INDICATIVE TIMING	Q4-2023
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	What is the European Year of Youth? European Youth Portal (europa.eu)

A. Political context, problem definition and subsidiarity check

Political context

On 15 September 2021, in her address on the State of the European Union, President Von der Leyen proposed to make 2022 the European Year of Youth. In her speech, she highlighted that it would be 'a year dedicated to empowering those who have dedicated so much to others.'

The Decision establishing the European Year of Youth (Decision (EU) 2021/2316 of the European Parliament and of the Council) was adopted on 22 December 2021, and the related activities took place during 2022.

The Decision requires the Commission to submit, by 31 December 2023, a report to its co-legislators on the implementation, results and overall assessment of the European Year of Youth.

This report takes the form of a Communication, which will help to put the achievements of and ideas generated during the European Year of Youth into a broader policy context.

The aim of this call for evidence is to collect feedback on actions and activities implemented as part of the 2022 European Year of Youth. The Commission also wants to consult stakeholders on priorities and ideas for future endeavours on mainstreaming youth policy into all policies and strengthening youth participation in the follow up to the European Year of Youth.

Problem the initiative aims to tackle

The European Year of Youth aimed to involve young people in shaping Europe's future, and to integrate their perspective in policymaking at local, regional, national and EU level. The European Year of Youth was about putting young people at centre stage, increasing their participation, listening to what they have to say and acting on it.

The European Year of Youth had the following four aims:

- 1. Renew the positive perspectives for young people while highlighting the opportunities offered by the green and digital transitions
- 2. Support young people, especially those with fewer opportunities to become active and engaged citizens and actors of change
- 3. Promote available opportunities for young people at all levels
- 4. Encourage the inclusion of a youth perspective into all relevant policies and topics

The European Year of Youth was a cross-sector initiative implemented at multiple levels and involving multiple actors. More than 12 500 European Year of Youth activities were initiated by public

authorities, international organisations, civil society and young people in the EU and beyond.

There is a need to assess how these activities have contributed to the Year's objectives and to draw insights from the collective achievements, which can serve to advance the youth agenda further and to contribute to EU-level cooperation in youth policy.

Basis for EU action (legal basis and subsidiarity check)

Legal basis

Article 165(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), which states that EU action should aim at 'encouraging the development of youth exchanges and of exchanges of socio-educational instructors, and encouraging the participation of young people in democratic life in Europe'.

Practical need for EU action

The Year's activities were designed and implemented in a spirit of collaboration between EU institutions, stakeholders, national coordinators, and young people. Taking stock of all the achievements and laying out the legacy of the European Year of Youth will also entail a collective effort, which is why the Commission is issuing this call for evidence.

As stated in Article 7: 'Monitoring and evaluation' of Decision (EU) 2021/2316 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 December 2021 on a European Year of Youth (2022) (Text with EEA relevance): 'By 31 December 2023, the Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament, to the Council, to the European Economic and Social Committee and to the Committee of the Regions on the implementation, results and overall assessment of the measures provided for in this Decision. That report shall include ideas for further common endeavours in the field of youth in order to create a long-lasting legacy for the European Year'.

B. What does the initiative aim to achieve and how

Likely impacts

This initiative is a legal obligation under Decision (EU) 2021/2316 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 December 2021 on a European Year of Youth (2022).

The report will provide more information to the EU institutions on the implementation and results of the European Year of Youth. It will provide an overview of key actions and activities implemented as part of the Year.

It also aims to set out ideas for further common endeavours (e.g. in the area of mainstreaming youth policy and youth participation into all policies), in order to create a long-lasting legacy for the European Year and to maximise its impact.

This Communication will contribute to the reflection and analysis of the ongoing interim evaluation of the 2019-2027 EU youth strategy. It will enrich the knowledge base and exchange of good practices in the youth field, by highlighting examples of European Year of Youth activities. It will provide insights linked to engaging, connecting and empowering young people.

Future monitoring

Any future follow-up initiatives to the Year will be further monitored under the Youth Working Party of the Council and during the Programme Committee meetings of Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps.

C. Better regulation

Impact assessment

This will be a Communication taking stock of all the Year's achievements and laying out its legacy – as explained in more detail above. It is not a legislative proposal. **An impact assessment will therefore not be conducted.**

Consultation strategy

Why we are consulting?

The consultation on this call for evidence is to collect views from all interested parties. We aim to reach all relevant stakeholders and the wider public, to collect feedback and ideas to feed into the Communication of the European Year of Youth and further establish its legacy and impact. In addition to this call for evidence, open to everyone for feedback, the Commission will conduct targeted consultations.

Target audience

This call for evidence targets the wider public / all interested parties, including any interested stakeholder.

Contributions from young people and the main stakeholders of the European Year of Youth are particularly welcome. The views of the general public and anyone affected by or having an interest in EU youth policy are also welcome.