



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENLARGEMENT AND EASTERN NEIGHBOURHOOD
ENEST.01 – Strategic Coordination & Communication
ENEST-INTERNAL-COMMUNICATION@ec.europa.eu

Call for Expressions of Interest for Commissioner Kos' 2026 Youth Policy Dialogue

Youth for Democratic Resilience Chişinău, Moldova, 3-5 June

1. Objectives

The European Commission is organising the 2026 Youth Policy Dialogue (YPD) of Commissioner for Enlargement, Marta Kos, with committed young leaders, in Chişinău, Moldova, on 3–5 June 2026 under the theme: **Youth for Democratic Resilience**.

The YPD aims at highlighting the importance of youth in defending democracy, showcasing how youth engagement can support democratic resilience, and strengthen resilience against emerging threats. Particular attention will be given to the role of young people in addressing disinformation, Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference, notably in the online space - in Member States and partner countries. This call therefore seeks **30 young leaders** with proven experience in:

- ✓ Strengthening democratic engagement (online/offline)
- ✓ Countering disinformation and FIMI
- ✓ Promoting media literacy and critical thinking
- ✓ Peer-to-peer awareness-raising and digital activism

This event will serve as a platform to **exchange good practices** and will combine case-study discussions, hands-on workshops, and visits to inspiring local projects and will culminate in a **policy dialogue with Commissioner for Enlargement Marta Kos**, building on the insights and exchanges from the preceding days.

This youth policy dialogue aims to:

- ✓ Highlight the critical role of young people in defending democracy
- ✓ Showcase youth-led initiatives that strengthen democratic resilience, media literacy, and public trust in electoral processes.
- ✓ Facilitate the exchange of good practices between the EU, enlargement countries, and Eastern Partners, with a focus on lessons learned from recent elections.
- ✓ Develop concrete policy recommendations to feed into the EU Democracy Shield and enlargement efforts.

2. Who can apply?

Applicants must:

- ✓ Be 18–30 years old at the time of the event.
- ✓ Be nationals of an EU Member State or one of the partner countries in the countries covered by DG ENEST (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus,

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye, and Ukraine).

- ✓ Not have participated in a previous Youth Policy Dialogue.
- ✓ Have C1-level English proficiency (working language of the event).

4. How to Apply

Applicants shall send the following elements to ENEST-INTERNAL-COMMUNICATION@ec.europa.eu by **20 April 2026**:

- ✓ **A detailed CV**
- ✓ **A Motivation letter** (max 500 words): Your experience, why you should be selected, and how you will contribute to the dialogue's objectives.
- ✓ **Project portfolio** (max 2 pages): Summary of relevant project and initiatives of the candidate (including links to campaigns, relevant social media accounts, report etc).

5. Selection Process

The Selection Committee steered by DG ENEST's unit 01 (Strategic Coordination & Communication) will select up to **30 participants** based on the following elements and criteria:

- ✓ Proven **experience and track record** in projects related to democratic resilience (e.g. countering disinformation and FIMI, promoting media literacy, strengthening critical thinking, developing narratives supporting democratic values, particularly in a digital environment.)
- ✓ **Strong motivation** to participate in an EU level event and **concrete ideas** on how to step-up this work at a transnational / EU level.
- ✓ Track record on **content creations** promoting success stories on social media and the **capacity to multiply** will be **considered an asset**.
- ✓ **Diversity of profiles**, to ensure e.g. gender balance, representation of different regions, age groups, socio-economic backgrounds, professional or educational experiences.
- ✓ For **EU Member States** nationals, particular focus lies on the current priority efforts in terms of Outreach & Engagement on Enlargement Austria, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, and Ireland.
- ✓ For **Young European Ambassadors (YEAs)**, priority will be given to members of the 4th generation (newest cohort).

Notification: Candidates will be informed of the outcome tentatively end of April / beginning of May 2026 via email.

6. Practical Information

- ✓ **Costs covered:** The European Commission will cover travel and costs related to visa, accommodation, and subsistence for selected participants during the event.
- ✓ **Pre-event preparation:** Selected participants will be invited to attend a virtual briefing in May 2026.