





# Youth4Cohesion

# Launch Web Conference

Thursday, 29 April 2021

10:15 a.m. - 12:30 CET

Working language: English

## Background

The <u>Youth4cohesion</u> (Y4C) project, directly funded by DG Regio within the "<u>Engaging citizens in Cohesion policy</u>" initiative and implemented by the <u>Adriatic Ionian Euroregion</u> (AIE), aims at equipping young people and youth organisations of the Adriatic Ionian area with the knowledge and skills for engaging in Cohesion Policy actively and meaningfully. The action is based on AIE's long-lasting commitment to involving young people in decision-making.

Through a Call for Expression of Interest addressed to young people and youth organisations in 10 countries of the Adriatic Ionian area, young people were called to engage in the project and attend a sustained programme of webinars focusing on the 5 policy priorities of the new Cohesion Policy 2021-2027 (: – a smarter Europe, – a greener, carbon free Europe, – a more connected Europe, – a more social Europe, – a Europe closer to citizens) and thus become "Cohesion Builders".

Participating in the Y4C Launch Web Conference, they will be introduced to the context of the project, its objectives and will be engaged in subscribing to the programme of webinars that will run from May to December 2021.

### **AGENDA**

#### 10:15-10:30 REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

Participants will be registered via the chat box of the online platform

#### 10:30-11:15 OPENING SESSION

Introduction by Mr Francesco COCCO, Secretary General of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE)

 Engaging Citizens in Cohesion Policy, Mr Francesco AMODEO, Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission



- Youth participation in the EU strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR), Ms Staša MESEC, Government Office for Development and European Cohesion, Republic of Slovenia, Head of EUSAIR Facility Point (Lead Partner)
- Youth engagement activities of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion, Ms Maria Luisa ESPOSITO, EU Project Officer of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE)

#### 11:15-11:45 SESSION I: BEST PRACTICES OF YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN THE ADRIATIC IONIAN AREA

- The AI-NURECC Initiative's Youth Action, Mr Stavros KALOGNOMOS, AI-NURECC Initiative Coordinator, Executive Secretary of the Balkan and Black Sea Commission (BBSC) of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)
- The Youth Volunteer Initiative (IVY), Mr Martín Guillermo RAMÍREZ, Secretary General of the Association of European Border Regions (AEBR)

#### 11:45-12:00 BREAK

#### 12:00-12:20 SESSION II: PRESENTING THE YOUTH4COHESION PROJECT AND THE NEXT STEPS

This session will be held by the staff of the Secretariat of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion and will be addressed to the young people selected through the Call for Expression of Interest

- The Youth4Cohesion project, aims and activities
- The experience of 2 IVY volunteers at AIE
- The Youth4Cohesion agenda: calendar of the webinars
- Q&A session
- Live Poll

**12:20 WRAP-UP and CONCLUSIONS** by Mr Francesco COCCO, Secretary General of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE)