

CIVIC SPACE YOUTH GROUP STUDY VISIT TO BRUSSELS



21-27 APRIL 2024



Funded by the
European Union



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

Empowering Youth through Exchange and Dialogue

As part of its ongoing commitment to strengthen youth participation and capacity, Civic Space successfully organised a study visit to Brussels between 21 and 27 April 2024, with the participation of members of the Youth Working Group.

This study visit was designed within the framework of Civic Space's holistic approach to youth inclusion and empowerment, which has included:

- Continuous facilitation support to the Youth Working Group since July 2021
- Tailor-made help desk support to youth CSOs on organisational development
- A youth study identifying key challenges and opportunities faced by young people
- The publication of a Youth Mainstreaming Guideline for civil society organisations

The visit aimed to build on these efforts by offering Youth Working Group members direct exposure to European-level youth organisations, networks, and institutions working on diverse thematic areas. The objectives of the visit were as follows:

- To meet and exchange experiences with youth organisations working in different thematic fields
- To explore membership opportunities with EU-level youth organisations,
- To engage in dialogue with international organisations addressing youth issues and to share perspectives on challenges specific to young people in the northern part of Cyprus
- To connect with CSOs and international bodies working on intersectional issues such as racism, discrimination, education, ecology, gender, and freedom of expression.

CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

Empowering Youth through Exchange and Dialogue

What was achieved?

During the week-long visit, the Youth Working Group:

- Met with a wide range of organisations and institutions working at both grassroots and policy levels in youth-related fields,
- Held fruitful exchanges on good practices in youth participation, inclusion, and policy-making,
- Initiated new contacts for future collaboration with European youth organisations,
- Gained valuable insights into how international CSOs address intersectional challenges such as gender equality, anti-racism, sustainability, and freedom of expression,
- Reflected on how these learnings could be adapted to strengthen youth activism and civic engagement back home.

This study visit provided not only knowledge and networking opportunities, but also a sense of solidarity, belonging, and empowerment for young people engaged in civil society in the northern part of Cyprus.

Civic Space will continue to support the Youth Working Group in their post-visit efforts to strengthen their joint actions, build on new connections, and work collaboratively towards improving the lives of young people in their communities.

CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 1

22 April 2024- Monday

WALLONIE-BRUXELLES FEDERATION YOUTH SERVICE

<https://servicejeunesse.cfwb.be/le-service/>

44 Bd. Léopold II, 1080, Brussels

The Youth Service implements the Wallonia-Brussels Federation's youth cultural policy, which aims to promote young people's individual and collective participation by encouraging them to be responsible, active, critical, and supportive citizens.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 2

22 April 2024- Monday

ERASMUS STUDENT NETWORK AISBL

Rue Joseph II 120- 1000 Brussels, Belgium www.esn.org

Erasmus Student Network (ESN) is a non-profit international student organisation. Their mission is to represent international students, thus providing opportunities for cultural understanding and self-development under the principle of students helping students and supportive citizens.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 2

22 April 2024- Monday

THE EUROPEAN EDUCATION AND CULTURE EXECUTIVE AGENCY (EACEA)

The European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) is a body of the European Commission responsible for managing funding and implementation of EU programmes in the fields of education, culture, youth, sport, media, and citizenship. Its core aim is to support inclusive, high-quality, and innovative learning and cultural experiences across Europe and beyond. EACEA manages key programmes such as Erasmus+, Creative Europe, and the European Solidarity Corps, promoting European cooperation, mobility, and active citizenship.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 3

23 April 2024 – Tuesday

**18:30-20:00 APERITIF WITH DG REFORM DIRECTOR GENERAL -
MARIO NAVA**

Stanhope Hotel Brussels by Thon Hotels Rue du Commerce 9, 1000, Brussels



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 3

23 April 2024 – Tuesday

11:30-13:00 DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE

https://commission.europa.eu/about-european-commission/departments-and-executive-agencies/education-youth-sport-and-culture_en

This Commission Department is responsible for EU policy on education, youth, sport, and culture.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 3

23 April 2024 – Tuesday

10:00-11:00 UN HUMAN RIGHTS REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE

Boulevard du Régent / Regentlaan 37-40 1000, Brussels

<https://europe.ohchr.org/>

Based in Brussels since 2009, the UN Regional Office works to advance the protection and promotion of human rights in the European Union and its member States.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 4

24 April 2024 – Wednesday

15:00 – 16:30 EC VISITORS CENTRE

Charlemagne, Rue de la Loi 170, 1040, Brussels

Based in Brussels, the European Commission Visitors' Centre provides the public with an understanding of how the European Commission works and its policies and priorities.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 4

24 April 2024 – Wednesday

10:00 – 11:30 THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS WORKING WITH THE HOMELESS (FEANTSA)

194, Chaussée de Louvain, 1210, Brussels

<https://www.feantsa.org/en>

FEANTSA is the European Federation of National Organisations working with the homeless. They are the only European CSO dedicated exclusively to combating homelessness. Their ultimate goal is to put an end to homelessness in Europe.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 4

24 April 2024- Wednesday

17:00 - 18:00 EUROPEAN CONFEDERATION OF YOUTH CLUBS

Mundo Trone, Rosa Parks Room, Rue de l'Industrie 10, 1000, Brussels

<https://www.ecyc.org/>

ECYC represents a European network of youth work and youth club organisations that practice and promote open youth work and non-formal education.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 5

25 April 2024 – Thursday

10:00-12:00 CYPRUS SETTLEMENT SUPPORT UNIT - DG REFORM

MERO, Avenue de Tervueren 41, 1040 Etterbeek, Brussels

<https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2020-07/ht0420250enn.pdf>

DG REFORM is responsible for the implementation of the EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community and for monitoring the application of the Green Line Regulation.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 5

25 April 2024 – Thursday

**14:00-15:30 MEMBER OF CABINET - COMMISSIONER FOR COHESION
AND REFORMS RIIKA TORPPA**

Rue de la Loi 200/ Wetstraat 200 – 1040, Brussels



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 5

25 April 2024 – Thursday

**16:00-17:30 THE MAROLLES YOUTH CENTER / LE FOYER DES JEUNES
DES MAROLLES - GROUP 1**

46, rue de la Prévoyance, 1000, Brussels

<https://fjmarolles.eu/>

The Foyer des Jeunes des Marolles was founded in 1961 and has since become a pillar of the Marolle neighbourhood. All activities and actions developed at the Youth Center are part of global prevention and development efforts on a social and family level.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 5

25 April 2024 – Thursday

16:00-17:30 EUROPEAN NETWORK AGAINST RACISM - GROUP 2

Avenues des arts 3, 1210 Saint-Josse-ten-Noode, Brussels

<https://www.enar-eu.org/>

ENAR is the only pan-European anti-racism network that combines advocacy for racial equality, facilitating cooperation among civil society anti-racism actors in Europe.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 6

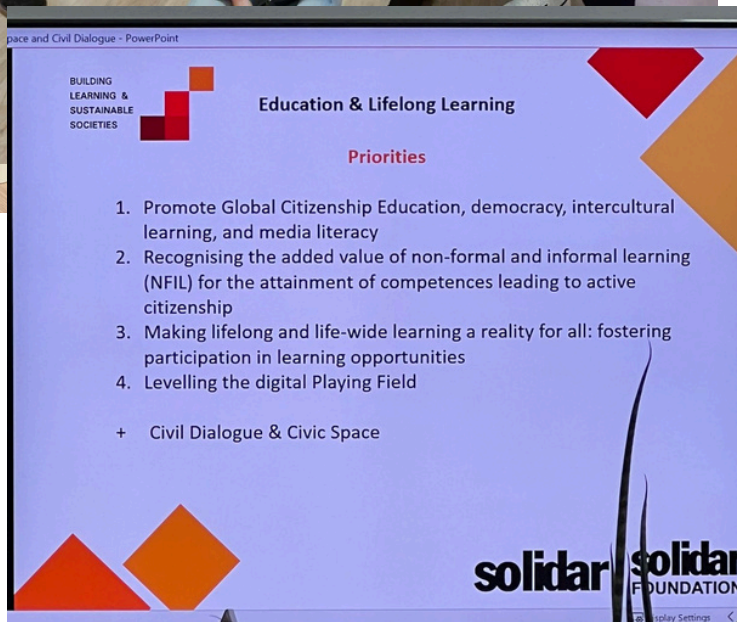
26 April 2024 – Friday

14:00-16:00 SOLIDAR FOUNDATION

50 Avenue Des Arts, 1000, Brussels

<https://www.solidar.org/about-solidar/>

SOLIDAR is a European network of Civil Society Organisations with a global reach working to advance social justice through a just transition in Europe and internationally.



CIVIC SPACE STUDY VISIT BRUSSELS

DAY 6

26 April 2024 – Friday

11:00-12:30 JINT – NATIONAL AGENCY FOR ERASMUS+

Grétrystraat 26, 1000, Brussels

www.jint.be

JINT is the National Agency for Erasmus+ Youth and the European Solidarity Corps and coordinates the Bel'J programme in Flanders, Belgium.



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