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**1st EUSAIR Youth Consultation Task Force Meeting**

**10th January 2023, Sarajevo**

**DRAFT operational conclusions**

Youth Consultation Task Force members present at the meeting:

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| Albania | No | No Task Force member |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Yes | Midhat Dzemić |
| Naida Dilić (deputy) |
| Croatia | Yes | Lidija Pansegrau Hadrović |
| Greece | Yes | Konstantina Pisli |
| Italy | No | Could not join the meeting due to flight cancelation |
| Montenegro | No | Not present, no information provided |
| North Macedonia | Yes | Naim Ilijazi (substitute) |
| San Marino | No | No Task Force member yet appointed |
| Serbia | No | Could not join the meeting due to flight cancelation |
| Slovenia | Yes | Aleš Rovšnik |
| European Commission | No | Could not joint the meeting |

Draft operational conclusions:

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| Mandate of the Youth Consultation Task Force (hereinafter YCTF) is to prepare a proposal for the EUSAIR Governing Board on how youth participation in EUSAIR shall be organized.  The conclusion of the YCTF is to involve youth in EUSAIR first through the establishment of EUSAIR Youth Council to fulfil the past agreements reached on ministerial and EUSAIR Governing Board level. The YCTF also proposes to continue the discussion on possible establishment of the EUSAIR Network of youth organisations. Each country decides whether to organize a national EUSAIR Network of youth organisations.  The EUSAIR Youth Council shall be formed to represent young generation of the Adriatic-Ionian region in EUSAIR, not the individual countries.  There should be one macro-regional process of selection of members in EUSAIR Youth Council carried out with the support of the EUSAIR Facility Point. The call for applications shall be organized allowing ample time for the interested young individuals to apply and accompanied by a coordinated and extensive communication campaign.  The general rules of the call for applications for the EUSAIR Youth Council were agreed:  **Eligibility criteria on who can participate:**   * Young individuals from 18 to 29 years old * English fluency and proficiency * Applicants shall not be at the same time also part of EUSALP or EUSDR Youth Council * Applicants shall not be members of political parties, interest groups * Applicants shall have permanent residency in one of the EUSAIR regions   **Selection criteria:**  The EUSAIR Youth Council members shall be selected randomly, taking in consideration the following rules:   * 3 members from one country shall be selected * gender equality shall be ensured * formal and informal education and interests shall be checked to ensure thematic diversity * equal representation of rural and urban areas shall be ensured (question in the application form)   **Mandate:**  The mandate of the members is for 1 year with the possibility to extend it for an additional year. In this way continuity is ensured. As soon as one member finishes the mandate, application process re-opens for the applicants from the respective countries. All members shall attend mandatory capacity building to be organized at the beginning of the mandate by the EUSAIR Facility Point and express commitment to attend and contribute to activities of the EUSAIR Youth Council.  **Scope:**  EUSAIR Youth Council is an independent body representing perspective of youth from the Adriatic-Ionian region on implementation of any topic they find relevant in an advisory manner. The scope and manner of the interaction between the EUSAIR Youth Council and the EUSAIR key implementing bodies, as well as the activities and procedures of the EUSAIR Youth Council shall be decided by the first established EUSAIR Youth Council and revised when necessary according to gained experiences and lessons learned.  **Financing:**  The support to the YCTF is financed by the current EUSAIR Facility Point strategic project.  It shall be checked if the European Commission plans to provide a grant for the establishment of the EUSAIR Youth Council, similar as in the case of EUSDR and EUSALP.  Future EUSAIR Facility Point project will finance activities for (e.g. capacity building) and of the EUSAIR Youth Council (e.g. travel and accommodation of the members to the meetings, meetings venue).  Next steps:  Draft operational conclusions shall be sent to all members of the YCTF. The intention of the EUSAIR Presidency is to establish the EUSAIR Youth Council for the 8th EUSAIR Annual Forum in Sarajevo, which will take place from 23rd to 25th of May 2023. Therefore, the EUSAIR Presidency proposes a 3 weeks deadline for sending the comments on the conclusions. No comments received will be considered as the silent agreement.  An additional online YCTF meeting shall be organized upon necessity after the completion of the above mentioned deadline.  If all countries agree on the proposal of the YCTF for establishment of EUSAIR Youth Council, the proposal could be adopted through a written procedure to the EUSAIR Governing Board or at the next EUSAIR Governing Board meeting (15th-16th March 2023).  Bearing in mind that the EUSAIR Presidency is planning to organise in cooperation with several Adriatic-Ionian, Balkan and Mediteranian organisations special events related to the youth activism in the week starting from 15 May 2023, in order to have at these events the selected members of the EUSAIR Youth Council, the EUSAIR Presidency strongly encourages to conclude the process of reaching agreement on proposal of the YCTF for establishment of EUSAIR Youth Council in due time. |