Draft Notes

2nd formal Meeting of the ESG

Cycle IX of the EU Youth Dialogue (January 2022 - June 2023)

Trio Presidencies: France, Czech Republic and Sweden

28/02/21

**Opening of the meeting**

Participants were welcomed to the second official online European Steering Group (ESG) meeting by the chair of the meeting. The chair introduced the rules to facilitate the online meeting (+/- voting system, mute microphones when not speaking).

Tour de table. The full list of participants can be found in the Annex to this document.

**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

The chair presented the draft Agenda and it was adopted without changes.

**2. Adoption of the minutes of the 1st formal ESG meeting**

The minutes of the 1st formal meeting of the ESG were adopted without changes. The minutes are available here:

**3. Finalisation of the consultation toolkit**

The Co-Chair introduced the first topic which is the reference to the intergenerational dialogue in the description of the topic Action and Empowerment.

European Youth Forum was suggesting to remove the word “intergenerational” from the following sentence: “Exploring the tools and mechanisms used in ensuring intergenerational dialogue and balance in decisionmaking can help provide basis on which such tools become widely used across the European countries and institutions.” It is suggested in order to avoid the whole topic focusing on tools that are related to intergenerational dialogue, instead of all kinds of dialogue.

Czech Ministry pointed out that the Czech Presidency is focusing on intergenerational dialogue and it would be crucial for them to somehow link the outcomes of the consultation to this topic, as such it would be useful to have a reference to it in the Consultation package.

Youth Forum asked whether it is possible to add an additional guiding question about intergenerational dialogue.

Czech Ministry welcomed this suggestion.

Researchers did not recommend to add a 6th question to the guiding questions, which will increase the preparation time and the workload of the NWGs. Furthermore, according to the researchers it makes not much difference if the word “intergenerational” is removed.

Swedish Ministry asked about the additional workload for the NWGs, since it does not seem to be the case, thus some more clarifications might be needed.

European Commission supported having a reference to the intergenerational dialogue.

Czech National Youth Council suggested finishing the Consultation package as soon as possible, thus it is not necessary to add one more questions but the intergenerational dialogue is still an important concept.

European Youth Forum took back their suggestion of an extra question in order to keep the timeframe, but would still suggest to remove the word “intergenerational” from the before mentioned sentence, while keeping it in the other one.

Swedish Ministry would like some more clarification on what exactly the substantial workload would mean.

Researchers explained that an additional question would make it difficult for the NWGs to work with the questions because it would be more difficult to understand the structure, or to translate, while it would be also challenging to report back.

Co-Chair suggested to vote whether to remove the “intergenerational” word in the before mentioned sentence.

***The ESG voted to remove the word “intergenerational” word.***

Co-Chair introduced the second topic for discussion about changing the wording in some cases related to sustainability, such as changing climate change to climate crisis.

Youth Forum acknowledged the input of the researchers, such as that the Explanatory Note was using the initial expressions and that it might be difficult for NWGs to translate the these, however it was pointed out that it is also important to emphasise the cross-cutting characteristics of these topics and use the correct terminology.

Czech Ministry suggested keeping the original wording as these were used in the Explanatory Note.

Researchers also referred back to the Explanatory Note and also reminded the ESG that the guiding questions should be as easy to use as possible.

Based on the input of the ESG members the European Youth Forum accepted not to change the wording and keep the original wording based on the Explanatory Note.

Co-Chair invited the European Youth Forum to present the next modification.

Youth Forum was suggested that in case of the accessibility of mobility programs for marginalised youth the emphasis should be on what decision makers should do, instead of what could be done. This way the actions can be more targeted and less recommendations will address the wrong stakeholders.

Researchers raised that adding decision-makers will make the questions more complex, since it might not be easy to understand who the decision-makers are.

Youth Forum accepts the reasoning of the researchers, and would proceed with the decision of the ESG.

Swedish Ministry expressed their support for keeping the original wording.

Co-Chair is proposing a vote on whether to focus the guiding question on mobility to decision-makers.

**The ESG decided to keep the original wording and not to focus the question on decision-makers.**

Youth Forum informed the ESG that some requests from NWGs have been received to extend the reporting deadline. It was asked whether an additional week could be provided.

Researchers informed the ESG that they would need a 5-6 weeks to finalise the report.

Czech Ministry would like to include the outcomes of the consultation in the Council Conclusions, thus it would be important to receive the report latest by mid-October.

Researches suggested to keep the 5th of September deadline in this case.

Youth Forum informed the ESG that the NWGs could include more activities in the report and it is also important to keep in mind that the consultation will need preparation after the consultation package is sent out. Thus a week could have been very useful, but it is also important to include the outcomes of the consultation in the Council Conclusion.

Researchers asked about the webinar the Czech Presidency is planning.

Czech Ministry informed that it will happen only after the reports are done, probably mid-October, beginning of November.

Czech NYC added that the goal of the webinar is to share the outcomes of the consultation. It was also suggested to keep the 5th of September deadline with flexibility

Co-Chair closed the discussion by suggesting keeping the deadline but also be flexible. Based on the previous discussions the Consultation package can be finalised.

**4. Launch of the toolkit**

Co-Chair suggested to share as soon as possible and organise the information webinar the next Tuesday, 8th of March at 15:00.

European Youth Forum added that as Secretariat, they will share the Consultation package with the NWGs. It was also shared that the goal of the webinar is to support the NWGs and INGYOs in their preparation for the consultation.

Co-Chair suggested having the meeting recorded and closed this point.

**5. Communication of the European Year of Youth**

Co-Chair invited the EC to present the main communication points of the European Year of Youth and how it relates to the EU Youth Dialogue.

EC informed the ESG that one of the objectives of the Year is to strengthen youth participation. Furthermore, additional support was provided to the Erasmus+ projects working with participation. Activities, studies and other actions labelled under the Year to provide more visibility and they are published on the European Youth Portal, the consultation could be the part of it as well. So far more than 400 activities have been uploaded. Furthermore, there is a dedicated page on the website about the Policy Dialogue. This activity entails young people meeting with each of the Commissioners. The website is constantly updated. There are 8 policy areas in the year and in each of the areas there is 1 flagship activity, such as the Policy Dialogue.

Czech Ministry shared some important milestones of the Year of Youth, like the closing event that will take place on 6th of December. They would like the young people to actively contribute to the program of the event.

Swedish Ministry informed the ESG that in Sweden the launch of the Year and the information about the Swedish Presidency will take place on 19th of March. During the year several events will be organised with the inclusion of young people.

Youth Forum suggested exploring how the connection between the Year and the EUYD could be established if there is any connection between the two.

Co-Chair suggested to have a more in depth discussion about the connection between the Year and the EUYD at the next meeting.

EC asked if the date of the new meeting is set already.

Co-Chair raised the question of social media accounts.

Youth Forum informed the ESG that the social media accounts are related to the Presidencies. It is possible to hand it over a bit before the Presidency but a significant difference needs to be discussed in the ESG and agreed on by the 2 parties involved.

French NYC agreed that the handover would be early now, and informed the ESG that the NYC is probably still planning to use the social media accounts.

Czech Ministry suggested April as a handover moment and to send a save-the-date invitation to the EU Youth Conference in March.

Co-Chair suggested that the Czech Presidency coordinate with the French Presidency about handling the social media account together.

Co-Chair asked for the input of the ESG regarding the date of the next ESG meeting, considering the consultation and the EUYC.

Czech Ministry suggested having a meeting in March or beginning of April to discuss the EUYC and include the ESG in the preparation. Once more information is available they can suggest a date.

Youth Forum informed the ESG that the meetings were continuous previously which is also preferred to discuss the preparation of the EUYC and other matters related to the coordination of the EUYD.

Co-Chair suggested looking into the possibility, and having the meeting based on the needs in March or in early April. The members of the ESG will be informed in the upcoming weeks.

**The meeting was closed.**

Annex I.

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| **French Presidency team** |
| Séverine Origny-Fleishman  | Government, co-chair |
| Christophe Devette  | Government |
| Pierre Laporte | Government |
| Jeanne Gorny | Government |
| Desiree Ristorto | National Youth Council, co-chair |
| **Czech Presidency team** |
| Martina Kotasova | Government |
| Michaela Dolezalova | National Youth Council |
| **Swedish Presidency team** |
| Anders Lindholm | Government |
| Tobias Adolfsson | Government |
| Johan Gebo | National Youth Council |
| **European Commission (EC)** |
| Marta Touykova | DG EAC |
| **European Youth Forum (the Youth Forum)** |
| Kristof Papp | European Youth Forum |
| **Guests** |
| Dan Moxon | Researcher |
| Ondrej Barta | Researcher |