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Newsletter - January 2025



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

EU Children's Participation Platform

WORK PLAN 2025-2026 #EUChildParticipation

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Work Plan 2025-2026

Our second Work Plan 2025-2026 is approved and published! Together with two consultations with EU children, there will be study and peer visits to help our young members connect and deepen their skills and knowledge. Based on children's input and aligned with the European Commission's priorities, the four topics covered will be:

- Equal opportunities and social inclusion
- Mental health and well-being
- Online safety
- Climate action

[Read more about the new Plan](#)





Meet our New Commissioner

We have a new European Commissioner – Glenn Micallef – who will work on children's rights, including child participation. He is the youngest Commissioner of the College, the youngest ever Culture Commissioner, the first Intergenerational Fairness Commissioner and the first young Youth Commissioner ever.

[Meet \(and follow\) Commissioner Micallef](#)

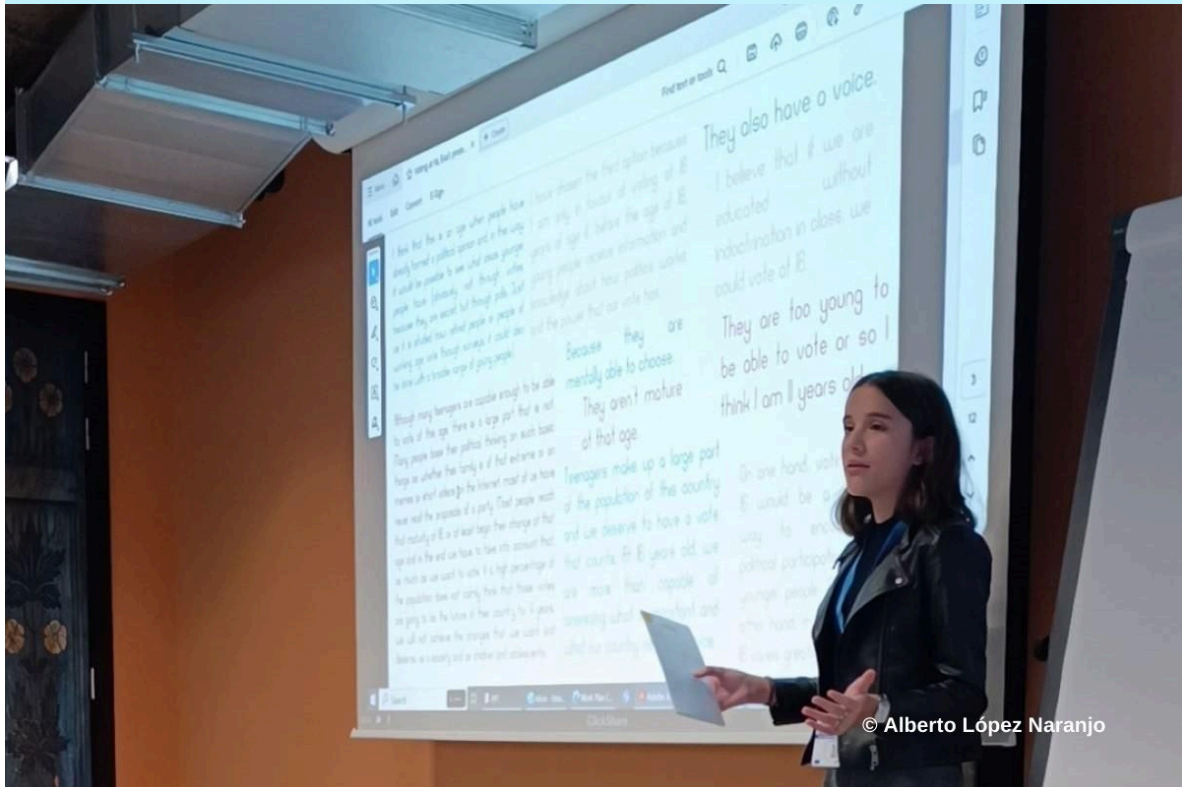


Advisory Board: Welcome and Bye-bye

The 5th Advisory Board meeting held on 2 December in Brussels welcomed new child members and said bye-bye to seven others. It was a busy day! Reviewing and finetuning the new Work Plan, and a special ceremony to recognise the contributions of those members leaving, while hearing from those joining about their motivations and expectations.

[See more AB videos](#)

MEMBER NEWS



Eva's Survey on Voting at 16

Young Spanish Advisory Board member Eva ran a survey to find out what children and adults around her thought about voting for 16-year-olds. This is a great example of how children can lead and bring the voices of others forward on topics that matter. Eva presented the results of her survey at the December Board meeting.

[Get Eva's survey results](#)

WE WERE THERE



Drupal@Europa – October 2024

A big meeting with the people who build and run EU websites on Drupal technology – like us! We spoke about co-creating with children, what children want from a website and heard from some other youth-focused websites.

[EU Drupal Community of Practice](#)



Safer Internet Centres focus group – November 2024

We took part in a SIC focus group with young people and adults to present the Platform and share our co-creation practices. We then worked in small groups to brainstorm on how to co-create materials about online safety.

[More on the SIC programme](#)



Teacher's Testing Panel – November 2024

The Platform was presented to over 50 EU school teachers who are part of the EU Learning Corner. We had a workshop with primary teachers to understand the best ways for the Platform to engage and consult children through schools.

[More teacher resources](#)



Meeting with new judges – November 2024

We spoke about the rights of the child and the Platform to 12 newly appointed Dutch judges who visited EU institutions in Brussels. We told them how important it is to create a safe space for children who want to share their views.



Workshop with Interpares on safeguarding – November 2024

Our safeguarding officers ran a workshop for members of parliament from different countries about child safeguarding. They talked about the rules in the Platform and how we make sure that our members are safe.

[More on Interpares](#)



European cooperation network on elections – November 2024

We presented the results of the Platform's consultations on democracy and voting to EU country government representatives who are responsible for elections.

[More about ECNE](#)

RESOURCES AND INITIATIVES

Discover initiatives and tools to support and empower children across Europe. From events to resources, there's something for everyone to learn, participate in, and benefit from:

- **Platform resources:** New documents and translations have been added to the [document library](#). This includes:
 - Child-friendly version of the Recommendation on child protection in all EU languages
 - Child-friendly summary of the Democracy survey results in all EU languages
 - Child-friendly report of the Create, Plan, Participate 1st working meeting
- **[Jericho campaign](#):** Co-funded by the European Union to help young people recognise risky situations and learn how to protect themselves. The project produced creative content for children and adults: [videos](#), [web series](#), a [flyer](#), and [podcasts in English, French and Italian](#).
- **New EU youth advisory panel:** The EU agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) is setting up a pilot youth advisory panel with young people aged from 18-25. [Applications are open until 9 February](#).
- **AI in STEM Challenge:** Science on Stage Europe is inviting primary and secondary STEM teachers to work with their students to produce poster or short video of an innovative approach to using AI. Winners will go to Berlin in June 2025 to present their projects. [Get more details and apply by 23 February](#).
- **5Rights Foundation:** This international foundation provides resources and tools on children's online rights, including [child-friendly information](#). Children from the age of 13 can apply to join the [Youth Ambassador programme](#) for youth-led activities to empower young advocates to make their voices heard.
- **European Youth Event:** On 13-14 June in Strasbourg, EYE brings together 16- to 30-year-olds to debate directly with Members of the European Parliament and other EU decision-makers, and to exchange views with

experts, activists, and content creators. [Registration opens in February.](#)

- **European Youth Portal:** Visit the [Youth Portal website](#) for information on events, activities, and networks for youth in different EU countries on lots of different topics.
- **Safer Internet Forum 2024:** The Forum was held in November under the theme of child protection and inappropriate online content. [Click through to watch the video recordings.](#)

OUR COMMUNITY

Building the EU Child Participation Community

Know of any child-centric organisations based in the EU that promote child participation? We are always looking for new members to grow the Platform's community.

Members get access to a variety of activities to help empower children and make their voices heard within the EU.

[Find out more on the Membership webpage](#)

WHAT'S NEXT

Coming Up From the Platform

Q1 2025:

- Consultation with children on equal opportunities and social inclusion
- 2025-2026 Work Plan in all EU languages
- 6th Advisory Board meeting in Brussels
- 1st study trip to Ireland

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