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PROGRAMME INTERREG ITALY-CROATIA 2021 – 2027

**DEMY-Coop
DEcision-Making Youth for
cross-border Cooperation**

**Deliverable D 1.2.2 Mapping of
youth organisations**

Interreg



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DEMY-COOP

MAPPING OF YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

Deliverable D. 1.2.2

This document is a preliminary assessment of the regulations promoting youth organisations in Europe and in the Interreg Italy-Croatia cooperation area. Its main goal is to underline the importance of the youth and their role in the society, through a shared definition and guidelines that can be freely applied at all levels (EU and cross-border, national and local, macroregional).

The document collects information about best practices of youth development, empowerment and cooperation, by identifying some youth organisations and highlighting their activities, priorities and work. The document also includes a quite extensive mapping of the youth organisations that operate across the cooperation area.

This document is a preparatory work to be used as a basis for further action within the DEMY-Coop project, where youth organisations, identified and selected in collaboration with local authorities in the areas covered by the project, will be involved in local meetings and will be led to explore their views, needs and challenges with regard to a more inclusive, meaningful and effective engagement of youth in strategic decision-making.





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1. Introduction

Decision-Making Youth for CB Cooperation (DEMY-Coop) is included in the small-scale project co-financed by the cross-border Interreg Italy-Croatia 2021-2027 Program. It contributes to Program Priority 5 “Integrated Governance for Stronger Cooperation,” specifically to the Objective 5.1 “Other Actions in Support of Improved Cooperation Governance”.

Based on the results of the previous [AI-NURECC PLUS](#) project, ended in December 2023, which helped support a stronger involvement of youth in a cross-border cooperation of the Adriatic Ionian Region and in relation to the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR), DEMY-Coop aims at stimulating local and regional government bodies to recognize youth as potential stakeholders and activate legal and administrative processes to involve them more meaningfully in macro-regional policies.

The project investigates the administrative and legal obstacles that hinder youth engagement in strategic decision-making and the goal of such investigation is to identify a model to enhance the institutional capacities of public bodies (for local and regional authorities) and stakeholders (youth organisations) in finding paths of collaboration and together work towards a smoother, more sustainable and inclusive cooperation.

To do so, DEMY-Coop devises activities to raise awareness, engage and integrate Local or Regional Authorities (LARs) and youth organizations by promoting the benefits of common cooperation. Therefore, the main focus is the inclusion of young people and their involvement in strategic decision-making processes, seeking to address their lack of participation and involvement in strategic decision-making processes, with the aim of improving integrated governance and cross-border cooperation in the Programme area. The intent is to promote and trigger cooperation.

To effectively investigate and address the administrative and legal obstacles that hinder youth engagement in strategic decision-making, we need a well-rounded approach that gathers insights from both public bodies and youth organizations.

The following sections will focus on the analysis of current European Union regulations and their application in Italy and Croatia in order to identify commonalities and develop an analysis of Italian and Croatian youth organisations.



2. The European legislation

Youth policies are crucial in the European Union for ensuring the active inclusion of young people in society and fostering their meaningful involvement in decisions that affect them. In this context, the EU promotes specific cooperation based on principles such as equal access to opportunities and the full involvement of young people in decision-making processes.

Articles 165 and 166 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) works as the foundation for EU action in the youth field. Specifically, Article 165 TFEU outlines EU action aimed at encouraging the development of youth and youth worker exchanges, as well as promoting the participation of young people in democratic life in Europe. Article 166 allows the EU to implement a vocational training policy to support and complement the efforts of Member States, with the goal of facilitating access to vocational training and encouraging the mobility of trainers and young trainees. It is acknowledged that young people are a vital resource for society, and all policies and activities related to young people should actively involve them.

Generally, the term "youth," which denotes the transition from childhood to adulthood, lacks a specific age frame. While it typically encompasses individuals between the ages of 16 and 35, its definition varies depending on specific contexts and member countries¹.

The active promotion and involvement of young people occur through various programs such as Erasmus+ and different initiatives like the European Solidarity Corps. These actions provide opportunities for the personal and professional development of young individuals while fostering active and informed citizenship. They are considered as tools offering guidance, funding, and support for the development and recognition of youth organizations and their activities in the European area, thereby promoting and bolstering the involvement of young people.

Recently, the EU introduced the Youth Strategy 2019-2027, based on the EU Youth Strategy 2010-2018, with the aim of engaging, connecting, and empowering young people. This strategy seeks to promote youth participation in civic and democratic life, connect young individuals across the EU and beyond to encourage voluntary engagement, learning mobility, solidarity, and intercultural understanding.

¹<https://pjp.eu.int/documents/42128013/47261653/Analytical+paper+Youth+Age+Bojana+Perovic+4.4.16.pdf/eb59c5e2-45d8-4e70-b672-f8de0a5ca08c>.



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Additionally, it aims to support youth empowerment through quality, innovation, and recognition of youth work, with a crucial focus on integrating young people into the workforce.

Central to the principles and objectives of the strategy is the recognition of the crucial role played by youth on the working sector. Concerning this topic, two concepts that need to be analyzed are “youth work” and “youth organization”, both interconnected and dependent on each other.

The first refers to the set of socio-educational activities managed by professionals or volunteers aimed at young people outside the school environment. These activities can take place within youth organizations, municipalities, youth centers, churches, and other similar contexts. The purpose of "youth work" is to contribute to the development of young people by addressing issues such as unemployment, school dropout, social exclusion, while providing opportunities for leisure and personal growth. In fact, the definition of youth work is “out-of-school education managed by professional or voluntary 'youth workers' within youth organizations, town halls, youth centers, churches etc., which contributes to the development of young people. Together with families and with other professionals, youth work can help deal with unemployment, school failure, and social exclusion, as well as provide leisure time. It can also increase skills and support the transition from youth to adulthood. Despite being 'non-formal', youth work needs to be professionalized further. Youth work contributes to all fields of action and their identified”. Despite its informal nature, "youth work" necessitates a greater degree of professionalization to ensure its effectiveness in addressing the evolving needs of young people.

To do so, different means are used as "youth organizations". It plays a pivotal role in representing and providing services to young people. These organizations, which come in different forms and sizes, are primarily dedicated to advancing the interests of young people and facilitating their active participation in society. Through advocacy efforts, training programs, promotion of political engagement, and community projects, "youth organizations" contribute significantly to the empowerment of young individuals.

In summary, while “youth work” refers to youth-oriented activities, “youth organizations” are the organizations that promote and manage them.



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However, while the European Union hasn't enacted a singular piece of legislation offering a standardized definition for youth organizations throughout its member states, there are commonly recognized guidelines and definitions in place. These guidelines help to establish a common understanding of what constitutes a youth organization and provide a framework for their recognition and support within the EU. For instance, programs like Erasmus+ include a definition of youth organizations, offering a broad but agreed-upon understanding. It is described as <<any organization, public or private, working with or for young people outside formal settings. Such organizations can be, for example: a non-profit organization, association, NGO (including European Youth NGOs); a national Youth Council; a public authority at local, regional or national level; an education or research institution; or a foundation>>.

Therefore, youth organisations are institutions defined as associations or formal/informal groups that focus on involving and empowering young people. The specific definition of "youth organisation" may vary slightly depending on national laws and contexts within EU member states, considering for example the different limit of age or different country law. This variability reflects the diverse legal frameworks, cultural norms, and historical contexts present across different countries in Europe. This recognition of diversity underscores the importance of considering local contexts and ensuring that policies and initiatives related to youth organizations are adaptable and inclusive across the European Union.

While the specifics may vary slightly depending on national laws and contexts within individual member states, these general guidelines serve to delineate the scope and purpose of youth organizations across Europe. This lack of a singular legislative definition allows for flexibility to accommodate the diverse nature of youth organizations and the different ways they operate within their respective countries.

The relevance is clearly expressed by European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life, adopted by the Council of Europe as early as 1992 and revised several times, which has as its main objective to provide guidelines for facilitating the active participation of young people in decisions and activities at the local and regional levels. Specifically in Title II.7 <<Youth organizations assume essential relevance in the sense that their main purpose is to reflect the views of young people, to respond to their needs and to serve their interests. They also offer a place where young people can, together with other young people with similar interests, participate in decisions and activities and become aware of the challenges posed by such participation>>.

Therefore, the shared goal is engaging and empowering young people, promoting their active participation in society by providing opportunities for personal and professional development, non-formal education, and promotion of values such as active citizenship, democracy, human rights, diversity and social inclusion.



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In conclusion, while the European Union lacks a singular legislative definition for youth organizations across all member states, there are general guidelines and agreed-upon definitions available. These guidelines, often outlined in programs like Erasmus+, provide a broad understanding of youth organizations while allowing for flexibility to accommodate the diverse nature of these entities within different national contexts. This variability underscores the importance of recognizing and respecting the autonomy and uniqueness of youth organizations across Europe, ensuring that policies and initiatives support their diverse needs and contributions to society.

3. Interreg CBC Italy-Croatia and Youth

[Interreg](#), also known as the European Territorial Cooperation (ETC), is a key instrument that strengthens cooperation between regions and countries within the EU. As part of the EU's Cohesion Policy, Interreg plays a vital role in promoting regional development, cohesion, and reducing economic disparities. A lot of attention is given to territorial challenges like climate change, digital transformation, and social inclusion.

Interreg aims to promote a harmonious economic, social and territorial development of EU regions and beyond. Over the years, Interreg has also become a key instrument to boosting cooperation between partners across borders. The aim: to tackle common challenges together and find shared solutions – whether in the field of health, research and innovation, education, transport, environment, culture, sustainable energy and more. These efforts aim to engage European youth in cross-border cooperation activities, fostering their participation and understanding of European collaboration processes.

For 30 years, Interreg and cooperation policy has found solutions for young by building partnerships and sharing knowledge to improve educational level, qualifications, skills, international competences and job opportunities also by activating transnational networks and many initiatives.

Among them, Interreg directly promotes the initiative [Interreg Volunteer Youth](#) (IVY), that facilitates volunteering experiences within Interreg Programmes and Projects. IVY enables EU citizens aged 18 to 30 to volunteer for 2 to 6 months to support, promote, and report on Interreg programmes and projects, fostering awareness of collaboration across EU borders. The goal lets youth improve their skills and a sense of European solidarity and citizenship.



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On the 15th and 16th of May 2024, it was organised the event "Interreg IPA ADRION, Italy-Croatia and EUSAIR Stakeholders Consultation: Shaping Cohesion Post-2027" in Sibenik (HR), as part of the [9th EUSAIR Annual Forum](#). One of the main topics that was highlighted (see [report](#)) is the importance of promoting youth involvement in the next programming cycle as well as in decision-making processes at macroregional, national and local level. It emerged the importance of youth participation in inclusive policy-making, addressing regional challenges, and fostering inter-generational dialogue. Addressing youth challenges and needs from both transnational and cross-border perspectives is crucial. Effective youth participation requires simplifying rules for youth organisation involvement, encouraging idea exchange between generations, and raising awareness about mobility, job opportunities, and social security.

Moreover, a more strategic approach is needed to involve youth organisations effectively, including simplifying procedures, mobilising funds, creating synergies with central programmes, and using initiatives like IVY. Thanks to programmes like IVY to engage young volunteers further strengthens youth involvement, ensuring their active participation and contribution to regional development strategies.



4. EU Strategy for the Adriatic Ionian Region

The EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region ([EUSAIR](#)) is a macro-regional strategy adopted by the European Commission and endorsed by the European Council in 2014. The EUSAIR is a functional area primarily defined by the Adriatic and Ionian Seas basin, encompassing significant terrestrial areas. It treats marine, coastal, and terrestrial zones as interconnected systems.

Youth engagement and inclusion are essential for the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region. Involving young people in consultations and decision-making processes ensures their perspectives are integrated into broader topics addressed by Interreg programmes and the Strategy. This approach fosters inter-generational dialogue and enriches EU initiatives across various topics and sectors.

In response to the ‘EU Youth Strategy’ resolution and the ‘Manifesto for young people by young people to shape the European cooperation policy,’ there was a recognised need for stronger youth involvement in EUSAIR decision-making. In 2022, under the EUSAIR Albanian Presidency and confirmed by the Tirana Declaration, an agreement was reached to establish the EUSAIR Youth Council. This initiative aims to ensure active youth participation and representation, ensuring that their voices, perspectives, and priorities are considered.

In 2024, under the Croatian EUSAIR Presidency, the process of youth engagement started some two years before finally reached a milestone. The EUSAIR created a Task Force on Youth Consultation to directly engage both young people and stakeholders in defining how to effectively represent and address the needs and aspirations of young people in the region. The Youth Consultation rolled on for months and targeted young people aged 16-29 in 10 EUSAIR participating countries. Developed by youth policy experts, the survey was aimed at collecting opinions of young people on the role, scope, and representation profile and mandate of the EUSAIR Youth Council. To ensure informed choices, participants were given access to three e-learning modules on EU Youth Dialogue, EU Macro-Regional Strategies, and EUSAIR youth projects/initiatives, to be completed before taking the survey.

The second phase of the process foresaw the launch of a Call for Applications for the EUSAIR Youth Council (EYC), which closed on 27 May 2024. On 13 June, the EUSAIR Facility Point announced the soaring result of 185 applications received. The soon-to-be-established EUSAIR Youth Council will actively foster youth participation, the integration of youth perspectives into policies and strategies with long-term regional impacts, while providing unique insights and creative solutions to shape the future for the Adriatic and Ionian Region.

DEMY-Coop contributed to this process by informing youth organisations involved in the project and the many young people who attended the event about this opportunity.



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5. Italian legislation: critical issues

The legal and policy framework for the operation and development of youth organizations in Italy is based on various national and regional legal acts, under the so-called “concurrent legislation”. However, at both the national and regional levels, the concept of “youth” lacks a precise legal definition and varies depending on the specific context. Moreover, without an approved national framework law on youth policies, there is a disparity in the various regional legislations and implementing regulations.

National and regional youth policies generally consider young people to be individuals aged between 14 and 35, or in some cases between 18 and 25, or even between 26 and 35, depending on the specific measures implemented. While general provisions regarding the criteria and functioning of youth organizations can be found in national laws such as the Constitution, Articles 3 and 18 of the Civil Code, and recent legislation on the third sector defined by Legislative Decree 117/17, the responsibility for defining specific directives and guidelines lies with each region due to the matter being within regional competence. The legal recognition of youth work as a distinct area of activity is currently being addressed. Despite the absence of a clear legislative definition of youth work, several local socio-educational practices align with the general definition of youth work at the European level. These practices include socio-educational work in youth centers, summer educational experiences, guidance services, study coaching, and educational and training support for young volunteers. While the responsibility for youth work primarily rests with the regions and autonomous provinces, the central authority holds responsibility for coordinating efforts at the national level.

It has to be noted that 17 out of the Italian regions are compliant with the national legislation and the European and international guidelines on youth policies. No framework law on youth policies has been adopted yet in three regions: Abruzzo, Calabria and Molise. This lack of legal basis

At the national level, there are representative bodies for young people: the National Youth Council and the Department for Youth Policies and Civil Service. The National Youth Council, established by Law No. 145/2018, serves as an advisory body representing young people in discussions on youth policies and advocates for the interests of young Europeans at international institutions, such as being a member of the European Youth Forum (EYF). The Department for Youth Policies and Civil Service is responsible for overseeing the activities of the Council and managing youth policies at the national level. Additionally, it evaluates the impact of public policies on young people and provides analytical and methodological support to public administrations. This analysis extends beyond policies directly targeting youth to include those that may indirectly or partially affect this age group.



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In addition to these two national bodies, some provinces also appoint a Provincial Youth Council, which serves various purposes, including acting as a bridge with national councils, formulating specific proposals for the provinces, and directly managing activities carried out.

It is clear the absence of a general definition and specific guidelines for youth organization. At the same time, currently, there is an ongoing effort to legally recognize “youth work” as a specific sector aimed at young people. Despite the lack of a clear legislative definition of youth work, various local socio-educational practices align with the general definition of youth work at the European level. These practices include socio-educational work in youth centers, summer educational experiences, guidance services, study coaching, and educational and training support for young volunteers. While the responsibility for youth work primarily rests with the regions and autonomous provinces, the central authority is tasked with coordinating efforts at the national level.

In general, when we talk about youth associations, we refer to a wide range of organizations that include cultural, sports, and recreational recognitions. Those play a crucial role in the personal and social development of young people, offering them stimulating spaces where they can grow, learn, and socialize. The structured environment they provide is necessary to explore interests, discover new passions, and develop skills useful for the future. The spaces are often managed by qualified adults who serve as mentors to offer guidance and support. Cultural, sports, and recreational associations are the main fundamental pillars for young people as they significantly contribute and help to build a more inclusive, dynamic, and resilient society, thanks to the promotion of engaging activities. Furthermore, it fosters cultural awareness and appreciation of diversity and helps to handle competition, overcome challenges, and work together to achieve common goals, which are essential elements in an increasingly globalized society.

To pursue these goals, every year, a relevant agreement is signed in the Unified Conference, which serves as a participatory planning tool to define strategies for the operation and development of youth organizations. This agreement establishes financial resources, objectives, and priorities for interventions supporting youth organizations. The annual agreement signed in the Unified Conference serves as a strategic planning tool, guiding interventions and investments in youth organizations. By setting clear objectives and priorities, this agreement ensures a coordinated and targeted approach to youth development.



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This passage highlights the dynamic landscape of youth work and organizations in Italy, emphasizing the ongoing efforts to recognize and support this vital sector. Despite the absence of a clear legislative definition, the alignment of local socio-educational practices with European standards underscores the significance of youth work in empowering young people.

The establishment of Provincial Youth Councils (es. Padova) further enhances youth representation and engagement, facilitating dialogue between national and local stakeholders and enabling tailored solutions to local challenges.

Overall, this passage underscores the multifaceted approach to youth governance in Italy and highlights the importance of coordinated efforts at both national and local levels to support the holistic development of young Italians.

6. Best Practices in Italy

Among the Italian youth organizations, there are innovative practices adopted. Best practices include strategies for active youth participation, training programs and skill development, awareness initiatives on social and environmental issues, as well as collaborative work methodologies and youth empowerment. It is important to identify it to provide valuable insights to enhance the activities of youth organizations and maximize their impact on the community and society as a whole. The best practices are not just focused on exchange or mobility programs, but also in different kinds of activities, especially promoting local culture.

The first best practice is *Communia*, based in Ancona, which promotes responsible social, cultural, and economic development. It primarily focuses on European project design, but it also promotes other activities from research to information, from training to design, mainly dedicated to youth and it offers consultancy, organizes cultural events, promotes active participation, and disseminates knowledge through various forms of communication, from publishing editorial material to managing laboratories and workshops. In Bari, the *MOH – Mobility opportunity hub* is focused on promoting youth mobility, fostering collaborations with local and European associations. It works as a catalyst for establishing a connection between youth and social and artistic work. The artistic mediation wants to address social issues, actively involving individuals in problem-solving through art, making everyone's skills accessible and meaningful.



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Moreover, Identities is based in Chieti and it is dedicated to promote projects of cooperation and cultural relevance aimed at enhancing understanding and safeguarding European cultural heritage, fostering intercultural dialogue, and defending human rights. The organization pursues the goals thanks to the organization of youth exchanges, training courses, workshops, contact seminars, internships, volunteer camps, debates, and artistic performances, but also artistic performances, debates, study visits, presentations of documentaries, books, films.

In conclusion, another example is Circolo Culturale Eureka in Pordenone. It is managed by a group of university students to promote cultural and social initiatives. It works as an engagement place for people to exchange ideas, studying and promoting activities.

7. Croatian Legislation

In the Republic of Croatia, young people are defined based on the Youth Advisory Board Act (Official Gazette 41/14, 98/19), specifically Article 3, Paragraph 1, which states that young people are those aged 15 to 30 years.” According to Article 3 of the Youth Councils Act (Official Gazette 41/14, 98/19), young people, for the purposes of this Act, are individuals residing or having a temporary residence in the area of a local or regional self-government unit in the Republic of Croatia that establishes a youth council. Young individuals who, at the time of submitting their candidacy for membership in youth councils, are aged between fifteen and thirty years have the right to be elected as members and deputy members of the youth council. The activities and organisations of young people in Croatia are governed by several key laws, programmes, and strategies that provide a legal and strategic framework for their organisation, societal participation, and decision-making, among which:

- National Youth Programme

The Government of the Republic of Croatia adopted the National Youth Programme for 2023 to 2025 at its meeting on 7 June 2023. The programme was developed by the Central State Office for Demography and Youth in collaboration with representatives from government bodies, the academic community, and civil society organisations.



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The National Youth Programme is a strategic document that encompasses six priority areas with 28 measures implemented by five government bodies, with a total funding of €7.9 million for the programme's execution. The priority areas of the National Youth Programme include Work with Youth, Youth Participation in Society, Youth Education, Youth and the European Union, Youth in Rural Areas, and Health and the Crisis Caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

This programme proposes subsidies for youth employment, funded by the state budget and EU funds, with success measured by the number of employed young people. It suggests curriculum modernisation, including revising existing programmes, integrating new technologies, and training educators. The programme also promotes volunteerism, increases the availability of psychological counselling by opening new counselling centres and hiring professional staff, and educates young people about available services. Support for young people from at-risk groups includes developing specific support programmes, collaborating with NGOs, and ensuring access to education and employment. It encourages youth participation in cultural activities through subsidised tickets and cultural workshops. These measures support various aspects of young people's lives, from employment and education to health and societal participation.

Each measure has clearly defined steps, responsible institutions, financing methods, and success indicators, ensuring effective implementation and monitoring of their impact on the quality of life for young people.

The implementation of the National Youth Programme in Croatia for the period 2023-2025 involves various bodies and ministries (The Ministry of Labour, Pension System, Family and Social Policy, responsible for youth employment and entrepreneurship; the Ministry of Science and Education for modernisation of the educational system and lifelong learning promotion; the Ministry of Justice and Administration collaborates with NGOs on volunteerism and societal participation of young people etc. Other state agencies, local authorities, schools, universities, NGOs, and the private sector also participate in implementing the programme, depending on the specific measure.

- Youth Advisory Councils Act (Official Gazette 23/07, 86/08, 80/11, 43/20)

The establishment and operation of Youth Advisory Councils in Croatia are regulated by the Youth Advisory Councils Act (Official Gazette 23/07, 86/08, 80/11, 43/20), which defines their purpose, tasks, establishment procedures, and relationships with local and regional self-government units. These councils are advisory bodies aimed at involving young people in public life and decision-making processes at local and regional levels.



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They are established by the decision of the representative body of the local or regional self-government unit. A youth council can have between 7 and 15 members, elected from among young people and their associations within the respective self-government unit. The councils discuss issues of interest to young people, provide proposals, opinions, and initiatives to representative bodies, and cooperate with other bodies and organisations dealing with youth issues.

On a national level, the National Youth Council is established to coordinate activities and policies aimed at young people across the country. This council collaborates with state bodies, NGOs, and international institutions to improve the position of young people and implement national youth strategies.

Each of Croatia's 21 counties (including the City of Zagreb, which functions as a separate county) has its own youth council. These councils participate in the work of representative bodies, typically having a certain number of members elected from young people aged 15 to 30. They regularly meet to discuss topics of interest, develop projects, and provide recommendations to local authorities. Through such organisation and activities, youth councils ensure that young people have the opportunity to actively participate in shaping policies and societal life in their communities.

In accordance with the Law, cities and municipalities in Croatia—comprising 127 cities and 428 municipalities—are mandated to establish youth councils to facilitate youth participation in local decision-making processes. The Youth Advisory Councils Act allows local self-government units to form youth councils as advisory bodies that offer recommendations, initiatives, and opinions to representative bodies regarding issues of significance to young people. While the establishment of youth councils is stipulated by law, the actual formation of these councils often hinges on the decisions of local authorities and varies considerably depending on the level of interest and engagement within the local community. Some cities and municipalities actively promote the establishment and functioning of youth councils, while others have yet to create such bodies.

In June 2023, a Draft Proposal for Amendments to the Youth Advisory Councils Act was adopted in Croatia, aiming to improve youth consultation in decision-making at the local and regional levels. The proposal includes introducing compensation for council members' work of up to €27, reimbursement for accommodation expenses directly related to council work, and facilitating the establishment of youth councils. Additionally, to ease the work of youth councils in municipalities, cities, and counties, and in line with the lifestyle of young people, it is proposed that youth council meetings be held electronically, while local units are enabled to establish youth centres. The establishment of the Youth Council of the Republic of Croatia as a coordinating body for youth councils has also been proposed, which would harmonise the activities of all youth councils, monitor and promote the interests of young people at the national level, and manage activities related to international cooperation.



8. Best practices in Croatia

In Croatia, young people have the opportunity to organise themselves into associations, which are essential for fostering civic engagement and facilitating participation in decision-making processes. The legal framework that governs the establishment and operation of these associations is primarily defined by the Law on Associations (Zakon o udruženjima). This legislation provides a comprehensive framework for the formation, registration, and operation of non-profit organisations, ensuring that young individuals can unite to pursue shared interests and objectives.

According to the Ministry of Demography, Family, Youth and Social Policy, more than 400 youth associations operate in Croatia, including various forms of organisations at local, regional, and national levels. These associations often focus on employment, education, health, social inclusion, and volunteering.

One of the most prominent umbrella organisation at national level dedicated to advocating for the rights and interests of young people in Croatia is the Croatian Youth Network (Hrvatska mreža mladih). The organisation focuses on various issues affecting youth, such as education, employment, health, social inclusion, and civic engagement. The Network comprises over 100 member organisations, including youth associations, NGOs, and student organizations, representing a diverse range of perspectives and initiatives. By fostering collaboration among its members, the Croatian Youth Network aims to enhance their capacity to address the needs of young people effectively, while also influencing youth policies and promoting active participation in decision-making processes at local and national levels.

Several associations at local and regional levels stand out in the Adriatic Croatia NUTS 2 region and Karlovac County.

In the Dubrovnik-Neretva County, the Youth Centre Dubrovnik offers a range of workshops in science, technology, art, and civil society. It provides free, educational, and entertaining activities for young people, ensuring they have a meaningful way to spend their free time.

In Istria County, the Rojc Association in Pula promotes volunteering, international cooperation, and culture, while the ZUM Association encourages youth participation and dialogue with decision-makers. Split-Dalmatia County is home to several active associations. The Youth Club Split focuses on volunteering, education, and culture, while the Poseidon Sea Scout Unit and the HELP Association concentrate on health, EU citizenship, and inclusion.



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In Zadar County, the Ahimsa Youth Association works on violence prevention, human rights, and environmental conservation.

In Karlovac County, the Youth Centre in Grabrik, run by the Carpe Diem Association and the Karlovac Film Club, serves as an information and educational hub for young people, promoting volunteering and the development of civil society.

In Lika-Senj County, the Network of Rural Youth of Croatia and the Razum Youth Association from Sveti Juraj are working to improve conditions for young people in rural areas.

In Primorje-Gorski Kotar County, the Žmergo Association from Opatija and the Rijeka Technical Culture Centre promote volunteering, environmental issues, and technological competencies. The Regional Youth Information Centre Rijeka – UMKI and the "EU Step" Civil Society Development Association address issues of discrimination, culture, and international cooperation, while the Community of Sports Associations of the City of Rijeka encourages sports and volunteering.

In Šibenik-Knin County, the Argonauta Association from Murter and the "Youth in the EU" Association from Šibenik promote volunteering, education, and European projects. Other organisations, such as the Šibenik Youth Association, Emedea, Association Stribor, Association SKUD Kreativac, BOKUN Vodice, MORE Vodice, and Kanica Youth Association, focus on creativity, the environment, and local and regional development. Several of the mentioned youth organisations from the Šibenik-Knin County are familiar with the Demy-Coop project and have expressed their willingness to participate in the project. These are: the Youth in the EU Association from Šibenik, the Argonauta Association from Murter, the Stribor Association from Šibenik, the SKUD Kreativac Association from Murter, the More Association from Vodice, and the Bokun Association from Vodice."

Besides youth associations, young people in Croatia also operate through student centres and associations active at universities and colleges. These organisations provide various services and activities, including accommodation, meals, cultural and sports activities, and support in education and employment. For example, the Dubrovnik Student Centre offers services such as accommodation, meals, cultural and sports activities, and organises various events and workshops to enhance student life. The Student Union of the University of Dubrovnik represents student interests, organises events, and promotes student activism, regularly collaborating with the university administration to improve study conditions.

In Split, the Student Centre manages student dormitories and restaurants and organises cultural, sports, and entertainment activities. It also provides counselling and support services for students. The Student Union of the University of Split actively participates in organising academic and social events, such as "Career Week" and "Career Days," to assist students in finding employment. Similarly, Student Centres and Student Unions operate in all student cities in Adriatic Croatia, namely at the University of Zadar, Juraj Dobrila University of Pula, University of Rijeka, and Polytechnics in Šibenik and Karlovac.



9. Conclusion

Nowadays it is increasingly crucial to provide space to youth people and their ideas. Although directives and laws in European legislation may be interpreted, it provides guidelines, various programs, activities, and opportunities. It is important for Member States to benefit from these initiatives and promote them in the Country.

For this purpose, it is important to implement a website dedicated to youth and youth associations, which provides a clear definition and clear guidelines at both European and national level.

Often, the main problem encountered is misinformation: many young people are unaware of the opportunities available in their area or do not know how to access them.

For example, in Italy, each region operates differently because the law is at the regional level. Therefore, some regions have their own list of youth associations based on their own legislative decrees. Currently, many existing portals are disorganized and poorly structured, with lists of associations with difficulties in findings the official guidelines and no links to their official websites. This lack of organization and accessible information greatly limits the ability of young people to identify and participate in the opportunities offered by the various associations.

Croatia has established a comprehensive legal and strategic framework to support the active involvement of young people in decision-making processes through various youth councils and organisations at national and both regional and local level. While challenges remain, such as awareness and engagement discrepancies across regions, the foundation for youth participation is solid. By leveraging technology and enhancing collaboration between youth councils, government bodies, and civil society, Croatia can continue to empower its youth, ensuring that their voices are heard and their needs are addressed in shaping a more inclusive and vibrant society. The ongoing commitment to nurturing youth participation will not only benefit young people but will also contribute to the overall social, cultural, and economic development of Croatia as a whole.

In conclusion, in both cases, creating a single and easily accessible portal, promoted in schools or universities, seems an effective solution to fill this gap. Providing a reliable and accessible resource to discover and participate in youth initiatives can stimulate the involvement of young people in the activities of youth organizations and promote a stronger and more inclusive sense of community.

This portal should provide clear and comprehensive information about all youth organizations active in the area, differentiating opportunities based on areas of interest. It could actively promote the activities of organizations based on the specific interests of young people, encouraging them to participate actively.



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Annex 1 - Italian Youth Organization

Italian associations corresponding to the identified requirements are divided by province of participation in the Interreg Program. The main criteria of selection is including youth in the activities without defining a specific age range. For this purpose, some organizations promote activities and services for youth, while others are directly initiated by them.

City	Name	Website	Description
Ancona	Associazione culturale Communia	https://www.associazionecommunia.org/	The association provides valuable growth opportunities for young individuals while anchoring its endeavors in robust scientific foundations. It is committed to fostering responsible social, cultural, and economic development, centering activities on human well-being and empowerment.
	Iniziativa Democratica	www.iniziativa democratica.org	ID is a leading NGO in the Marche Region for Erasmus+ youth exchanges, facilitating experiences for over 100 young Italians in Europe and Asia. Additionally, ID organizes cultural and social events, mainly in Ancona, focusing on the rule of law, gender equality, and environmental protection.
	CSV MARCHE CENTRO SERVIZI PER IL VOLONTARIATO DELLE MARCHE ETS	www.csv.marche.it	CSV Marche, the Volunteer Support Centre of the Marche Region, is a regional network dedicated to enhancing the quality of volunteering organizations in the Marche Region. CSV Marche offers free services, including administrative and fiscal advice, communication and promotion support, project development assistance, and collaboration with public and local entities. Their annual budget is around two million euros. It is committed to involving volunteers who face educational difficulties, disabilities, or geographical obstacles in their activities, ensuring inclusivity in various project types.



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	CENTRO PAPA GIOVANNI XXIII - SOCIETA' COOPERATIVA SOCIALE	http://www.centropapagiovanni.it/	The cooperative Centro Papa Giovanni XXIII crucial service for families with disabled children by offering various developmental activities and fundraising projects. The cooperative emphasizes democracy and inclusivity, guided by the needs and desires of its users.
Ascoli Piceno	7AP	https://www.facebook.com/ascoli.cult.7AP	Youth cultural association, directs its activity in the creation and dissemination of the 7 Arts
Bari	MOH Mobility Opportunities Hub	https://www.mohbari.eu/	It is dedicated to promote youth mobility and fostering partnerships with local and European associations. The focuses are on artistic mediation, digital communication, and youth mobility, with a strong emphasis on providing opportunities and support for young people.
	Giovani Pugliesi	https://www.giovanipugliesi.it/chi-siamo/	Giovani Pugliesi is an apolitical, cultural, social and territorial promotion association serving the organization of events. Giovani Pugliesi aims to pursue collective interests, solidarity, social and cultural promotion, including the enhancement of the environment, nature, territory and landscape. The Community of Young Pugliesi organizes and reports events, communicates news in our cities, and promotes commercial activities.
	ABUSUAN	www.abusuan.com	The intercultural centre ABUSUAN is a hub where different cultures and traditions converge, fostering a new society and language that reflect diverse forms of coexistence and inter-ethnicity. It organises activities include conferences, concerts, shows, literary and film meetings, and educational and training sessions aimed at promoting understanding of various cultures, histories, and conflicts.
	Ass. Tou.Play ETS	www.touplay.it	Tou Play was established following a Contamination Lab EU initiative involving both universities of Bari. The organization's mission is to transmit culture and history to young people and tourists in an interactive and enjoyable manner, departing from traditional



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			<p>education methods. Tou Play utilizes group games, exploration, and non-formal education to promote integration, interaction, and the discovery of new cultures.</p>
	<p>ASSOCIAZIONE DEGLI STUDENTI STRANIERI DELL'UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI BARI</p>	<p>https://www.facebook.com/ASSUNIBA</p>	<p>ASSUNIBA is a non-profit international student organization at the University of Bari Ateneo, focusing on welcoming, accommodation, integration, and outgoing support. The association's mission is to assist and enrich the experience of students in Bari, particularly refugees and asylum seekers who have fled persecution and intolerance. ASSUNIBA aims to create an inclusive environment on the university campus and in the local neighborhood where all individuals are valued and included in social life.</p>
	<p>C.A.P.S. Centro Aiuto Psicosociale Cooperativa Sociale a r.l. Onlus</p>	<p>https://www.facebook.com/cooperativacaps/?locale=it_IT</p>	<p>The Cooperativa Sociale C.A.P.S. a r.l. Onlus focuses on child protection, including in the penal area, the promotion of children's and adolescents' rights and opportunities, combating human trafficking, addressing severe adult marginalization, and responding to social emergencies.</p>
	<p>CSV SAN NICOLA</p>	<p>WWW.CSVBARI.COM</p>	<p>CSV San Nicola is an association dedicated to promoting a culture of solidarity and subsidiarity by encouraging participation from both organizations and individuals.</p>
	<p>Mane Impresa sociale srl</p>	<p>www.manesociale.it</p>	<p>Manè's long-term focus remains on welfare issues and the desire to contribute to new public policies that support individuals, particularly those with disabilities and lack of self-sufficiency. We aim to create private sector scenarios based on autonomy, inclusion, and social innovation. Moreover, the projects now involve not only individuals with disabilities but also those excluded from participation and social inclusion processes.</p>
	<p>Passaporto Italia</p>	<p>http://www.passaportoitalia.com</p>	<p>Passaporto Italia has undergone specific training to teach Italian to foreigners. This enables them to have the sensitivity and ability to meet the needs of all students, contributing</p>



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			to the enrichment of each individual. Moreover the association organizes trip for youth to learn the language.
Barletta- Andria-Trani	Le Petit pas APS	www.petitpasa.ps.it	The association Petit Pas is dedicated to enhancing the community through initiatives grounded in democracy, equality, and pluralism. Their mission revolves around empowering young people irrespective of their backgrounds, focusing on skills enhancement.
Brindisi	Centro di Aggregazione e Giovanile (CAG)	https://www.cagbrindisi.it/	The Youth Aggregation Center (CAG) provides a variety of opportunities for youth to engage in educational and social activities, aiming to promote their holistic development and prevent social marginalization.
	Cooperativa sociale il FARO	https://www.ilfarosociale.org/	The social cooperative Il Faro was established to offer opportunities to women and young people from disadvantaged socio-cultural and economic backgrounds or situations of family violence. Il Faro has participated in Erasmus+ projects since 2017, facilitating mobility activities in both the adult and youth education sectors. The cooperative values cultural exchanges and learning from different organizational practices and methodologies, enhancing both its staff and the people it supports.
	Associazione di Promozione Sociale SEI	https://seiproject.org/	SEI is a non-profit organization founded in 2013 with the mission of encouraging students across the region to become active volunteers and citizens. SEI strives to create a more sustainable world, defined as a society that is fair, eco-centric, balanced, and innovative.
	Società cooperativa sociale Ferrante Aporti	http://www.aporti.it/	The social cooperative "FERRANTI APORTI," established in 1986, is a non-profit organization grounded in mutual principles. Partners contribute to service management and development, emphasizing mutual responsibility and sharing. The cooperative reinvests positive outcomes into social activities, extending mutual values to the community.



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<p>Campobasso</p>	GAP Molise	https://www.facebook.com/p/GAP-Molise-100088398158003/?paipv=0&eav=Afa4wyoAW4nPJ06ScP6wNBWDAshb4k-GI6f4hA5eGsGiHsZF_arUIbkX7UeeoE6m0S8&_rdr	<p>GAP MOLISE, or "Giovani Attivisti della Partecipazione, Molise e oltre," is a project promoted by Europe Direct Molise and the Province of Campobasso, to enhance youth participation in Molise.</p>
Isernia	Forum dei Giovani della Città di Isernia	NA	<p>Forum dei Giovani (Youth Forum) was recently (early 2024) promoted by the Municipality of Isernia and in collaboration with the Municipality, is going to be the major institutionalised youth engagement actor in the city of Isernia.</p>
Isernia	Futura	https://www.facebook.com/x.futura.x	<p>Futura is a cultural association led by young people of the city of Isernia and develops collaborative actions in the cultural sector. Futura is an ongoing project that aims to intersect heterogeneous artistic and cultural practices to respond to societal challenges. It specifically investigates the languages of visual and performing arts as forms of expression of youth aspirations, needs and challenges, and promotes the contamination of knowledge.</p>
Montecilfone	giovanichimere	https://giovanchimere.com	<p>giovanchimere is a non-for-profit social promotion association, made by young people who want to build a new society, based on values as self-development, solidarity, community, sustainability.</p> <p>giovanchimere is a safe space for youth to express their aspirations and needs, as well as to self-develop by experiencing community building also through cooperative activities at local, European and international level.</p>



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			giovanichemere is active in EU-funded educational mobility projects for young people.
Bojano	Chimera	https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100079494738948	chimera is a social promotion organization that spreads a culture of participation, inclusion and democracy, promoting, encouraging and supporting initiatives at local, national and European level.
Chieti	Identities	https://www.identities.it/	Identities is dedicated to promote projects of cooperation and cultural relevance aimed at enhancing understanding and safeguarding European cultural heritage, fostering intercultural dialogue, and defending human rights, thanks to the study of European culture and the organization of youth exchanges, training courses, workshops, contact seminars, internships, volunteer camps, debates, and artistic performances.
Fermo	Associazione Antiche Fonti	https://antichefonti.altervista.org/	The Youth Association Antiche Fonti (A.G.A.F.) is dedicated to restoring an ancient water source in Contrada Papagnano, thanks to the commitment of youth people through social media promotion, event organization and volunteering.
Ferrara	IBO Italia - ODV-ETS	https://iboitalia.org/	IBO Italia works for international cooperation and volunteering for social change. It is aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly in areas of education, inequality reduction, and peace promotion.
	FIUMANA	https://fiumana.org/	FIUMANA is a cultural, sporting and recreational association founded in 2009, which has its operational headquarters in Ferrara. The FIUMANA association offers theater workshops, creates shows and animations, organizes events, develops intercultural projects, and actively participates in the redevelopment of the river as a route of communication and exchange, environmental resource and cultural identity.



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	Encanto - centro Intercultural e Italo-Spagnolo	https://encantoaps.com/	Aims to creatively promote cultural and artistic activities between the two cultures, increasing the development and rebirth of the territory, creating a multifunctional space in which organize educational courses, creative Spanish language courses, workshops and open meetings everyone.
Foggia	La locanda dei ragazzi	https://www.facebook.com/lalocandadeiragazzi/?locale=it_IT	La Locanda dei ragazzi is a an organization that manage a meeting place for youth, organizing activities about music, sports, nature walks, and initiatives to assist those in need in the neighborhood.
Forlì-Cesena	Cooperativa Sociale L'Accoglienza	https://youth.europa.eu/volunteering/organization/51661_it	The Cooperative "L'Accoglienza" offers various educational, socio-rehabilitative, and reception activities for young people and disabled individuals, emphasizing connection with the community, resource enhancement, volunteering promotion, and social inclusion.
Gorizia	Examina ASP Association	https://www.assozionexamina.it/	It is a group of young individuals under 30. It operates as cultural organizers, focusing on producing cultural events such as festivals, exhibitions, and performances.
Lecce	Vulcanicamente APS	https://www.vulcanicamente.it/	VulcanicaMente APS is a non-profit organization dedicated to work with youth to create a generation of active European citizens.
	Arcigay Salento La terra di OZ	http://www.arcigaysalento.it/	Arcigay Lecce is a non-profit association dedicated to building a secular and democratic society where individual freedoms and human and civil rights are recognized, promoted, and guaranteed without discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other personal and social condition. The association aims to create an environment where individuals can thrive in peace and harmony with their social and natural surroundings. Arcigay Lecce is committed to involving volunteers facing social obstacles and cultural differences in its activities, ensuring inclusive participation for all.
	South Europe	http://www.seyf.eu/	SEYF (South Europe Youth Forum) is an international network of youth NGOs dedicated



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	<p>Youth Forum APS</p>		<p>to developing projects and activities through a participatory approach to support young revolutions and create positive societal change. Based in Italy and spread across Europe, SEYF promotes international cooperation, facilitates access to European opportunities, and supports learning mobility.</p>
	<p>Consorzio Atena Formazione Sviluppo</p>	<p>https://www.atenaformazione sviluppo.it/</p>	<p>Consortium ATHENE specializes in human resources training, offering a comprehensive range of professional training services. It focuses on both basic and advanced training, providing initial and ongoing educational opportunities across various business fields. The consortium is committed to continuous skill enhancement and development.</p>
	<p>New wellness Education - APS</p>	<p>https://www.newwellnesseducation.com/</p>	<p>The organization focuses on providing educational opportunities and promoting wellbeing for local and international youth, including NEETs (Not in Education, Employment, or Training), young migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees. Supported by international programs like Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps, as well as national initiatives like Garanzia Giovani and Fondo Sociale Europeo, the NGO aims to enhance the mental, physical, and overall quality of life for both local and foreign youth.</p>
	<p>Mobius Circle APS</p>	<p>https://preciousplasticsalento.it/</p>	<p>Mobius Circle is a young volunteering association based in the Apulia region of southern Italy. The organization is dedicated to raising awareness about climate change and promoting sustainable lifestyles rooted in the 3 "R" principle: reduce, reuse, recycle. Their ultimate goal is to facilitate the transition to a circular economy. Their initiatives focus on practical solutions to plastic pollution and fostering a community-oriented approach to environmental sustainability.</p>
	<p>Ruotando</p>	<p>http://www.associazioneruotando.it/</p>	<p>Ruotando Cultural Association continues to be a vital resource for the community, promoting sustainable transport, cultural engagement,</p>



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			and social inclusion through its diverse initiatives and partnerships.
Macerata	Gruca	https://www.gruca.it/	Gruca is a non-profit association that is committed to protect the environment, promoting environmental awareness and social responsibility through environmental education initiatives in schools and the management of a shared organic garden.
	Macerasmus	http://www.esnmacerata.it/	MACERASMUS is offering numerous activities for Erasmus students to explore the region and enjoy their free time. This association has expressed its willingness to involve ESC volunteers, integrating them into a lively and multicultural environment. As a result, volunteers will have the opportunity to engage with the local community, participate in dynamic and multicultural settings, and provide support in activities such as language teaching or exchanges, as well as various informal activities they can propose during their stay in the city.
Padova	Xena - Centro scambi e dinamiche interculturali	https://www.xena.it/	Xena is an organization dedicated to personal and social growth through local and international initiatives, focusing on transnational internships, training, and education.
	Aniel	https://www.asoziazioneaniel.com/	Aniel Association is a social cooperative established in January 2016 to help minors in marginalised situations. It is composed of a multidisciplinary staff that reflects different experiences in the social field in order to offer new responses to the needs of minors and their respective families. The diversity of skills, training and professional histories of the founders has constituted a precious resource in terms of awareness, solidity and project concreteness from the beginning.
	Futuro e Progresso Associazione	https://www.futuroeprogresso.com/FuturoeProgresso	Futuro e Progresso is a non-profit organization for social promotion based in Padova. The main goal is to foster active citizenship among youth



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	di promozione sociale	turoProgresso/?locale=it_IT	people and raise awareness about the societal changes and transformations shaping our world.
	Associazione Nuova Famiglia	https://www.nuovafamiglia.it/	In 1994, " <i>Nuova Famiglia</i> " was born, a secular and pluralist voluntary association that places the protection of the least at the center of its commitment, with particular attention to the youngest. Initially the main activity was aimed at accompanying couples in the process of international adoptions and long-distance adoptions. Over the years, the Association has grown, thus being able to engage in other projects, such as the construction of schools, clinics, wells, power lines and much more.
	SummerTime Choir	https://www.summertimechoir.com/	The Summertime association has been present in the area for over 30 years, constantly booking for musical talents to give them the possibility of training, experience, sharing and performance at high professional levels, all non profit and intended as a moment of cultural growth, artistic, and personal for young people from Veneto and beyond.
	La Bottega dei Ragazzi	https://www.bottegadeiragazzi.it/	La Bottega dei Ragazzi is a youth association that promotes; actions that promote the full fulfillment of the person, including through cultural, leisure, training and educational activities; services that support minors and families in different developmental stages and in times of crisis; interventions to assist people and families in difficult situations and in reconciling time between private life and work; interventions that can prevent and treat mental and social distress.
	Retemaranathà	https://www.retemaranatha.com/	ReteMaranathà focuses on empowering youth through prevention interventions, promoting participation, and fostering active citizenship.
	Equality cooperativa sociale	https://www.equalitycoop.org/	EQUALITY is a social cooperative established to serve the community's general interest by promoting human welfare and integrating individuals facing social exclusion and



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			marginalization. Its overarching goal is to facilitate social, educational, and employment inclusion programs aimed at fostering individual autonomy.
	Cooperativa sociale il Sestante Onlus	https://www.coopilsestante.com/	Il Sestante Onlus adheres to the core principles of the global cooperative movement. It emphasizes mutuality, democratic control by members, and collaboration with other cooperatives and public bodies to foster community development and social justice. Il Sestante manages services such as refugee integration, employment support for the unemployed, active aging programs, social mediation in conflict-ridden areas, reintegration initiatives for ex-prisoners, and urban renewal projects through youth-focused arts and culture.
	ConTatto - Cemea Veneto Società Cooperativa Sociale	https://contattocemeaveneto.weebly.com/	ConTatto "CEMEA Veneto onlus" is an international movement that advocates for the role of education in societal evolution and actively engages in its transformation. These actions target various groups (children, youth, adults, teachers, social workers) and encompass education, training, solidarity, active citizenship, social projects, learning mobility, and events, underlining the belief that education permeates every aspect of life. CEMEA regards youth as integral to society, responsible for shaping and realizing their life goals.
	Equality cooperativa sociale	https://www.equalitycoop.org/	EQUALITY is a social cooperative dedicated to advancing community welfare and integrating marginalized individuals, particularly victims of human trafficking, Italian and foreign minors, and vulnerable young adults.
	Tele radio city scs onlus	https://www.sherwood.it/	Tele Radio City SCS Onlus operates across three main areas: social communication and information, entertainment and social engagement, and training.
	Orizzonti Società	https://www.orizzonticoop.it/	Orizzonti Cooperativa Sociale emerged from the dedication of Cultural Mediators, Italian



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	cooperativa sociale		Language instructors, and Psychologists who had long been engaged in fostering intercultural connections. By providing a range of social and cultural services, it endeavors to address the integration needs of both Italian and foreign populations, contributing to the well-being of the community as a whole.
Pesaro e Urbino	Il mantello VSM	https://www.facebook.com/IlMantelloVsm/?locale=it_IT	Il mantello VSM offers a wide range of activities in social and cultural areas, such as volunteering and solidarity.
	Il Saltallegro di Bartolucci A. e Palo A. snc		"Il Saltallegro" kindergarten offers diverse activities tailored to the children's ages and attention spans, including foreign language instruction, artistic workshops, psychomotor learning, and yoga. The center welcomes children from diverse backgrounds, including those with immigration backgrounds, without any restrictions. Having observed a lack of cultural diversity and foreign language opportunities for young children in Pesaro, the kindergarten embarked on a process of internationalization.
	Croce rossa italiana - Comitato di Pesaro ODV	https://www.crocerossaitalia.it/ipesaro.org/	The Croce Rossa Italiana - Comitato di Pesaro is part of the International Red Cross Movement, dedicated to alleviating the suffering of individuals in crisis, regardless of their circumstances. The volunteers engage in various fields, including social assistance, medical support, emergency response, first aid, and refugee services. Their efforts primarily focus on aiding the most vulnerable community members, such as the elderly, the sick, those at risk of exclusion, and refugees.
	Capra e Cavoli 23	http://www.cappraecavoli23.it/	Capra e Cavoli 23 is an association for children up to 3 years old to 10. It emphasizes creating a bridge between schools and families, focusing on children's autonomy and education. The center collaborates with local associations and institutions to enrich the children's experience. Notably, it works with the Biblioteca San



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			Giovanni in Pesaro to organize reading activities, helping children value reading and learn to use the library.
	Campo Base Società cooperativa sociale	https://campobasecoop.org/	CAMPO BASE is a social cooperative founded in December 2008, classified as a type B cooperative, focusing on the inclusion of people with fewer opportunities. It engages in social integration projects with schools and urban communities, fostering awareness and acceptance of disabilities and environmental respect. The cooperative consists of a management team, members, volunteers, and employees, including both disabled and non-disabled individuals.
	Baseball Club Pesaro ASD	http://www.baseballpesaro.it/	The Pesaro Baseball Club focuses on promoting and disseminating baseball, achieving numerous titles and awards across various competitions and leagues, including softball. The club boasts its own baseball field with facilities, including changing rooms and a common room for events, and ample outdoor space for summer activities. The youth sector is crucial, as it helps develop and nurture the skills and passion for baseball among young players, forming the foundation for future teams.
	AIAS - Associazione italiana assistenza spastici Pesaro	https://aiaspesaro.org/	AIAS, Provincial Section of Pesaro and Urbino, is a voluntary association (ONLUS) committed to protecting the rights of disabled individuals and improving their quality of life.
	Tiquarantuno A società cooperativa sociale	https://www.t41b.com/	The "T41" aims to achieve social integration for people with disabilities by fostering personal autonomy, technical and operational skill development, and communication improvement. It leverages local resources to promote interaction between the Centre, its users, and the community, preventing marginalization.



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	Onlus Gulliver	https://www.onlusgulliver.com/	Onlus Gulliver employs 50 people, many with special needs or internships for social inclusion, and is supported by 200 volunteers, including young people from the national civil service. Over the past decade, Gulliver has built a network involving other solidarity and inclusion associations, local institutions, schools, cooperatives, and even the prison system to amplify the impact of its activities.
	Vicolocorto - Totem	https://www.vicolocorto.org/it/attivita-nel-centro-giovanile-totem	The Youth Centre TOTEM aims to strengthen the sense of community in the suburban area of Villa San Martino by offering various social services focused on inclusion.
Pescara	Movimentazioni APS	https://www.movimentazioni.org/	Movimentazioni focuses on social and cultural progress, though promoting youth inclusiveness and targeted events.
Pordenone	Circolo culturale Eureka	https://www.coopeureka.it/servizio/ciagi/	The Circolo Culturale Eureka aims to promote cultural and social initiatives, based on dialogue and legitimization of every aspect and cultural sensitivity.
	Fondazione Anffas "Giulio Locatelli" Onlus	https://www.anffaspordenone.it/	Anffas Onlus Pordenone is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the civil rights of disabled people and providing residential and daily care services. Anffas Onlus Pordenone aims to improve the quality of life for its guests by fostering inclusion and integration into society and providing tailored physical, emotional, and relational support. The organization offers a range of daily socio-occupational workshops and recreational and sports activities, supported by local volunteers.
	Cooperativa Sociale FAI - Famiglia Anziani Infanzia Sociale Cooperativa Onlus	http://www.copsocialefai.it/	FAI is an Italian social economy organization that manages a variety of social, educational, and health services for diverse target groups, including the elderly, children, youngsters, people with disabilities and mental health issues, and migrants. Employing about 500 workers, FAI partners with numerous local authorities to provide these services to foundations, associations, and citizens.



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<p>Ravenna</p>	<p>LibrAzione Società Cooperativa Sociale</p>	<p>https://librazione.org/</p>	<p>LibrAzione is a social cooperative dedicated to fostering social cohesion within the community through cultural stimulation, sociological research, designing new responses to emerging needs, and service management.</p>
<p>Rimini</p>	<p>Cooperativa Sociale il Millepiedi</p>	<p>https://www.ilmillepiedi.it/</p>	<p>The social cooperative Il Millepiedi works for promoting educational services and communities for youth and minors.</p>
	<p>Volontaromagna OdV</p>	<p>https://volontaromagna.it/</p>	<p>Volontarimini is an association dedicated to fostering volunteerism in the province of Rimini. The goals of Volontarimini include promoting the culture of volunteerism and solidarity, providing training for volunteers, addressing the concrete needs of volunteer associations, supporting these associations in their activities, and accrediting volunteering in the social field. These objectives aim to enhance the growth and competence of volunteer organizations.</p>
<p>Rovigo</p>	<p>Zico</p>	<p>https://zico.me/</p>	<p>Zico aims to share collectivity, ideas and projects, focusing on social innovation and socio-economic inclusion. It promotes cooperation, encouraging the growth of creativity, culture, and entrepreneurial spirit among young people.</p>
	<p>Arcisolidarietà ODV</p>	<p>http://www.arcisolidarietarovigo.it/</p>	<p>The Arcisolidarietà association aims to promote initiatives for solidarity culture, particularly focusing on immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, war victims, and those whose civil and human rights are violated. Their goal is to advocate for solidarity culture as a tangible expression of rights and responsibility, countering societal individualism and racism.</p>
	<p>ASD Baseball softball club Rovigo</p>	<p>https://www.bsrovigo.com/</p>	<p>The Baseball Softball Club Rovigo embodies values of seriousness and planning, aiming to create a familial environment through a love for the sport. It has become a hub for hundreds of boys and girls to play high-level baseball, with teams spanning various age groups and even including a team for visually impaired players.</p>



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<p>Selvazzano Dentro (PD)</p>	<p>USMA Padova</p>	<p>https://usmapadova.it/</p>	<p>USMA is a youth hub and a multisport club devoted to promoting the value of sports and life skills and countering educational poverty using sports and social collaborations. Founded in 1963, USMA is firmly convinced of the importance of youth social development; USMA assumed an ambitious commitment to provide young people with an inclusive educational environment and positive role models for life; provide youths leaders with learning and promote volunteering, social integration and youth's skills development.</p>
	<p>Scarpette Rosse</p>	<p>https://www.scarpetterossepd.it/</p>	<p>Scarpette Rosse is an amateur sports association that offers students complete training in the various sectors of dance, keeping classical technique as a cornerstone, fundamental for the training of a dancer. It therefore offers introductory dance courses, classical dance at lower, medium and advanced levels and repertoire, modern dance, contemporary dance, hip-hop, stretching - pilates and fit-tone.</p>
<p>Teramo</p>	<p>Centro Giovani Kairos</p>	<p>https://www.centrogiovanikairos.it/</p>	<p>Kairos is a non-profit volunteer association that caters to both young people and adults. Its primary goal is to offer opportunities for meeting, experiences, and educational growth.</p>
<p>Trieste</p>	<p>SicuraMente -young</p>	<p>https://sicuramente-young.eu/</p>	<p>SicuraMente-young is a non-profit association of young people born to spread the culture of safe and sustainable mobility, raising awareness and collaborating with authorities, educational institutions, and the third sector on regional, national, and international projects in Friuli Venezia Giulia region.</p>
	<p>Arci Servizio Civile del Friuli Venezia Giulia</p>	<p>https://www.arciserviziocivile.it/fvg/</p>	<p>Arci Servizio Civile Aps aims to promote a culture of peace and solidarity, education, cultural promotion, and sports practice. It also focuses on safeguarding and promoting the nation's heritage, including historical, artistic, and environmental aspects, as well as promoting legality and participatory planning.</p>



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Udine	DEMY-Coop Getup Udine	https://www.getupudine.it/	Getup Udine promotes a meeting place for the youth of the districts. It is oriented towards promoting social inclusion and personal emancipation.
	Oikos	https://www.oikosets.net/	Oikos Onlus, founded in Udine in 2005, focuses on supporting asylum seekers, promoting international cooperation, and educating about integration and mondiality. Their values include international solidarity, social inclusion, diversity, democracy, and European participation.
Venezia	Venice on board	http://www.veniceonboard.it/	Veniceonboard is a Non-profit Sports Association founded in Venice in 2014 by three young Venetians determined to preserve the beloved traditions of their city.
	Juvenice	https://www.giovaniamicifenice.it/	Juvenice or Giovani Amici della Fenice aims to connect the youth to Theatre. It is open to all under 35s who want to share their love to the theater.



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Annex 2 - Croatian Youth Organisation

In the sector of nonprofit organizations committed to promoting social and environmental change, some organizations stand out for their fervent efforts to engage youth and promote a positive impact in society. Based on the definition of "youth organization," these organizations center their activities on young people, actively engaging in the promotion of youth participation, volunteering, and environmental protection. Through a series of European projects, they offer significant opportunities for personal growth, professional development, and intercultural exchange to those involved.

City	Name	Website	Short description
Dubrovnik	<u>BONSAI</u>	https://www.udrugabonsai.hr/newbonsai/vision-mission-values/our-programmes	BONSAI was founded in 2008. in Dubrovnik, Croatia. Our main program, the Volunteering center Dubrovnik, was founded in 2010. Centre is a part of the National network of volunteering centers. We are providing a set of services to our local community and are defined by standards for local volunteer centers.
Murter	<u>Udruga Argonauta</u>	https://argonauta.hr/	Promoting volunteerism and volunteer activities, environmental and climate change initiatives, rural development, and urbanization, creativity, and culture
Opatija	Udruga Žmergo	http://www.zmergo.hr/	The organization works to involve youth by promoting policies that can benefit this segment of the population
Pula	Savez udruga Rojca	http://rojcneta.org/index.php/hr/	Promoting volunteer activities, international cooperation, and the arts for young people interested in cultural events, community projects, and using technology for visibility
	Youth Forum Pula	https://centerforinterculturaldialogue.org/tag/youth-forum-pula/	The center is the main aggregation point of the Province of Pula, Croatia, aiming at organizing events for exchanges and empowering youth community of the region and beyond.
	Udruga ZUM	https://infocentarzum.org/	Area of activity: youth (participation, youth work, youth policy), promotion of volunteering and volunteer activities, and facilitating dialogue with policymakers in youth policy;



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			mobility projects such as youth exchanges, mobility of people working with youth, and the European Voluntary Service
Rijeka	Centar tehničke kulture Rijeka	https://ctk-rijeka.hr/	Enhancing youth welfare and development, promote volunteerism, foster social inclusion, and drive innovation in digital technologies; encouraging participation in society, provide volunteering opportunities, and support those facing disadvantages
	Regionalni info-centar za mlade Rijeka – UMKI	https://umki.hr/	The organization is dedicated to advancing youth welfare, creativity, and cultural development while addressing issues such as discrimination and negative behaviors like drug use and violence in sports. It promotes exchange, networking, and collaboration to further its values and objectives on both national and international levels.
	Udruga za razvoj civilnog društva “EU korak”	https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068370154644	The organization focuses on various areas, including support for national and minority groups, international cooperation, development, and regional collaboration. Through mobility projects like youth exchanges, it facilitates cultural exchange and collaboration among diverse youth.
	Zajednica sportskih udruga Grada Rijeke “Riječki sportski savez”	https://rss.hr/	The organization focuses on various aspects of sports, including supporting volunteer and staff mobility, sustainable financing, athlete dual careers, good governance, and athlete health and safety. It facilitates cultural exchange and collaboration among participants, through mobility projects like youth exchanges.
Šibenik	<u>Mladi u EU udruga Mladih</u>	http://mladi-eu.hr/	The organization operates for Youth inclusion, Promotion of volunteering and volunteer activities, EU Citizenship, EU Awareness, and Democracy, trying to participate in mobility projects.
Split	Klub mladih Split	https://klubmladihsplit.hr/	Actively engaging youth and promoting youth policies to create an inclusive and participatory environment through the promotion of volunteerism and volunteer activities,



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			intercultural and intergenerational education, and lifelong learning.
	Udruga za pomoć mladima HELP – Split	https://youth.europa.eu/volunteering/organisation/48640_hr	Focuses on youth engagement, volunteering promotion, and inclusion of disadvantaged individuals. It provides young people with opportunities for active participation in youth policies and volunteer activities. Through international mobility projects like youth exchanges and European voluntary service, it fosters intercultural competencies in youth for personal and professional growth.
Vodnjan	<u>INFORMO – udruga za poticanje zapošljavanja, stručnog usavršavanja i obrazovanja</u>	https://www.informo.hr/	The organization aim to promote youth participation, supporting young people through specific policies, disseminating and supporting volunteering, and providing assistance to entrepreneurship, industry, and small and medium-sized enterprises.
	<u>Udruga ISTARSKO – Ekomuzej iz Vodnjana</u>	https://www.istriana.org/en/	The organization main goal is interacting with young people and youth policies, promoting volunteering and voluntary activities, rural development, and urbanization efforts.

