

Directorate-General for Communication
Directorate for Liaison Offices
Strategic Support Unit for Liaison Offices



European Parliament Ambassador School

2021/2022 REPORT

STRATEGIC SUPPORT UNIT FOR LIAISON OFFICES

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NOTE: The data included in this report were supplied by the European Parliament Liaison Offices (EPOs) via the 2021/2022 European Parliament Ambassador School (EPAS) report and the hours of attention.

1. SUMMARY

Since the 2021/2022 school year, the European Parliament Ambassador School (EPAS) programme has been implemented in all EU Member States plus the United Kingdom¹. The network had 4 671 senior ambassadors (teachers) and 30 781 junior ambassadors (students) from 1 756 certified schools.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath still posed the biggest challenge for the EPOs in the 2021/2022 school year, the gradual transition to on-site events started to increase the engagement, motivation and involvement of students in the EPAS programme's activities. Moreover, the circumstances created by the pandemic enabled and motivated the EPOs to be more flexible in organising both online and hybrid activities. The 2021/2022 school year also saw an increase in cross-border cooperation and links between schools.

Overall, the EPOs organised 342 EPAS events. At the same time, EPAS schools hosted 10 444² EPAS events and activities (online and/or offline). In the 2021/2022 school year, the number of MEPs that were involved in schools' activities (online and/or offline) totalled **391**³. The variety of activities organised by the EPOs with EPAS schools is shown in Annex I and includes exchanges with MEPs, role-play games, discussions on human rights and sustainability, participation in media programmes, creative projects and more. It is worth noting that interactions between EPAS schools and together.eu volunteers are becoming more and more popular.

During the year, a series of activities were run to enhance the EPAS programme and boost engagement with teachers and students:

- the EPOs were able to finance in-person EPAS transnational events (known as EPAS Together events);
- closer cooperation within the Directorate General for Communication (DG COMM) made it possible to organise EPAS gatherings (teachers and students) in Strasbourg on the occasions of the LUX Award and Sakharov Prize ceremonies;
- EPAS teachers were invited to the event for non-formal and formal educators in Brussels;
- EPAS schools participated in the local European Youth Events (EYEs) in Spain and Croatia;
- an EPAS eTwinning group was launched in April 2021;

¹ Following a successful pilot project launched in the 2020/2021 school year, the EPO in London launched the EPAS programme in 2021/2022.

² From September 2021 to August 2022.

³ From September 2021 to August 2022.

- the local interinstitutional dimension was reinforced through agreements taken at headquarters level to foster cooperation with European Commission representations and Europe Direct centres on educational matters, in particular on the EPAS programme;
- a brand new EPAS communication toolkit was designed in line with the new youth offer visual identity guidelines and the European Parliament (EP) brand book.

The EPLOs continue to recommend that the programme be given official recognition, as well as a more institutional response to a variety of issues. An increasing number of the EPLOs mentioned the importance of combining offline and online activities to offer more flexible solutions and options.

2. THE PROGRAMME

The programme has been implemented **EU-wide since 2016**. It aims to raise awareness of European parliamentary democracy, European citizenship and European values among students and has been building a growing network of schools, teachers and students engaged with the EP, its Members and the EPLOs.

To be part of the network participating schools organise activities that raise awareness of European parliamentary democracy and European citizenship by using the educational material⁴ provided by the EP. Among other initiatives, they appoint teachers and students as senior and junior ambassadors, respectively, organise activities for Europe Day and set up an EP/EU Info Point in their schools.

Activities take place throughout the school year. The programme, therefore, provides an **ongoing** activity for young people. As a result, the EPAS network became an essential multiplier in the *'This time I'm voting'* campaign in the run-up to the 2019 European elections. It is also a crucial entry point to the together.eu community⁵ and will be key for the 2024 European elections.

In 2021/2022, the following **actions were implemented** to enhance the EPAS programme and boost engagement with teachers and students:

a) enabling EPLOs to finance in-person EPAS transnational events

Following the Bureau's endorsement⁶, the EPLOs can finance teacher and student gatherings in in-person transnational events and additional national seminars as requested in the 2021 budget resolution⁷. The main objectives of the initiative are to enhance the pan-European perspective of the programme, create additional

⁴ [Youth Hub: Learning resources](#).

⁵ The together.eu platform hosts a pan-European community encouraging everybody to participate in democracy. The website is available at: <https://together.eu/>.

⁶ Enhancements of the European Parliament Ambassador School Programme: recent developments and the forthcoming introduction of EPAS transnational events (D(2021)9849).

⁷ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2021-0432_EN.html.

incentives to boost engagement ahead of the European election in 2024 and leverage the potential of the Europa Experience spaces⁸.



Together with the Financial Support Unit for Liaison Offices (FSU), the necessary framework was put in place to launch this initiative in 2022. To implement these activities, the EPLOs cooperate to organise the event, design the programme and establish transparent selection criteria to ensure equal access for all participants,

whether teachers or students. An exchange between participants and MEPs is one of the focal points of these events.

This new concept was implemented twice during the 2021/2022 school year: in Croatia with the participation of schools from Austria, Hungary, Slovakia and Croatia, and in Estonia – using the Europa Experience centre as the main venue – with the participation of schools from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Finland.

Following the success of these two pilot *'Ambassador Schools together'* events, several EPLOs have included EPAS transnational events in their 2023 strategy and programming⁹.

In addition to in-person transnational events, the EPLOs continued to organise international online activities and initiatives. In this regard, since the onset of the pandemic in 2020 the EPLOs have integrated online international initiatives into their regular activities and the services they offer for the EPAS network. Some examples can be found on Confluence¹⁰.

b) Closer cooperation within DG COMM

In 2022, closer cooperation within DG COMM enabled synergies and increased the incentives for the EPAS network. The Strategic Support Unit for EPLOs, together with the FSU, organised the following events in 2022:

- **LUX Award Youth Seminar for EPAS**

⁸ The Europa Experience spaces are part of a wider chain of visitors' facilities, with the Parliamentarium as the origin of subsequent projects and repository of the content that is adapted in the Member States; and the mobile installations (mobile role-play game and mobile information unit), under development/roll-out that allow further dissemination in the Member States outside capital cities. Europa Experience spaces are currently operational in Berlin, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Ljubljana, Tallinn, Paris and Rome.

⁹ The EPLOs' 2022 Strategy and Programming is available on [Confluence](#).

¹⁰ <https://comm-wiki.in.ep.europa.eu/wiki/display/EPLO/Sharing+is+caring>.

More than 100 teachers and students gathered in Strasbourg in June 2022 for the first pan-European EPAS event organised since the onset of the pandemic in March 2020. It was the first time that junior ambassadors had participated in pan-European seminars organised in Brussels or Strasbourg and it was the first EPAS event co-organised with Visits and Seminars Unit (VISSEM) and the Civil Society Outreach Unit (CSOU). Students and teachers from 26 Member States had the opportunity to hear from Evelyn Regner, Vice-President of the European Parliament; Sabine Verheyen, the Chair of the Committee on Culture and Education; Michael Downey OBE, the Chair of the European Film Academy and Honorary President of the LUX Awards Selection Panel; and Matthijs Wouster Knol, CEO and Director of the European Film Academy.



- **Event for formal and non-formal educators**

The event *'When Traditional Education meets Non-Formal'* gathered 100 educators (EPAS teachers and non-formal educators) from all Member States and the United Kingdom in Brussels in November 2022. The event's purpose was to provide a space for both formal and non-formal educators working with young people on civic engagement to:

- exchange and learn from each other's experiences to encourage more active voting in the 2024 European election;
- envisage what might be possible if formal and non-formal educators worked together on practical ideas/projects that could be implemented in the future;
- take the initial steps towards creating an EP network of educators.

The event was co-organised with the Youth Outreach Unit (YOU). Following the success of the first event in 2022, an annual educators' event is planned to be held in Brussels.

- **Sakharov Youth Seminar with Ambassador Schools**

More than 80 teachers and students from almost all EU countries (plus the United Kingdom) gathered in Strasbourg. Participants met Vice-President

Hautala and three representatives of Ukrainian society, learnt more about the EP, followed the Sakharov Prize award ceremony, met the EPLOs' Heads of Office and designed projects to implement on together.eu. The Strategic Support Unit (SSU) and the VISSEM jointly organised the event with the support and contributions of the YOU and Visitors and Citizens Liaison Unit (VSCU).

At national level, the EPLOs have worked with different units to organise several initiatives in which EPAS schools took part. Among other activities, examples included **the local EYEs in Spain and Croatia** and the **EPAS Euroscola sessions**.



c) Increased visibility of the programme through the EPAS website

The existing EPAS website was integrated into the Youth Hub¹¹ and contributes to promoting the pan-European perspective of the programme and supporting the communication actions accompanying the EPAS.

d) The EPAS eTwinning group

Following the assessment of needs raised by many senior ambassadors and together with the Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture (DG EAC), an EPAS eTwinning¹² group was launched in April 2021. More than 400 EPAS senior ambassadors have already joined the group (150 more than in 2020/2021).

¹¹ <https://youth.europarl.europa.eu/more-information/ambassador-school.html>

¹² eTwinning offers a platform for staff working in a school in any of the European countries involved to communicate, collaborate, develop projects, share and feel part of an important learning community in Europe.

In addition, teachers have involved students in some eTwinning projects. In this context, there are more than 100 junior ambassadors participating in the 'Europe Our DNA' eTwinning project. According to the moderator of the group, around 5 000 junior ambassadors are involved indirectly.

e) Closer interinstitutional cooperation

Under the [guidelines](#)¹³ implementing their new mission statement, the Europe Direct centres are encouraged to cooperate with the EPLOs to implement activities aimed at young people, such as the EPAS programme. In addition, the Commission has been a key partner in promoting the learning resources developed under the EPAS programme. The EPAS materials are available in the Learning Corner section of the Youth Hub website¹⁴. The EPLOs also cooperate regularly with the Commission Representations in educational and EPAS related activities.



f) New Ambassador School communication toolkit

The EPAS communication toolkit is being updated and expanded to help EPLOs to convey information about the programme in a way that is consistent with the EP new youth visual identity and the new EP brand book.

3. THE NETWORK

Since the 2021/2022 school year the network has had **4 671 senior ambassadors** (774 new senior ambassadors) and **30 781 junior ambassadors** (6 215 new junior ambassadors), from **1 756 certified schools** in all Member States and the United Kingdom.

The graphs below show how the network has evolved over the years. Note that the figures only include teachers and students **nominated as senior and junior ambassadors**. Owing

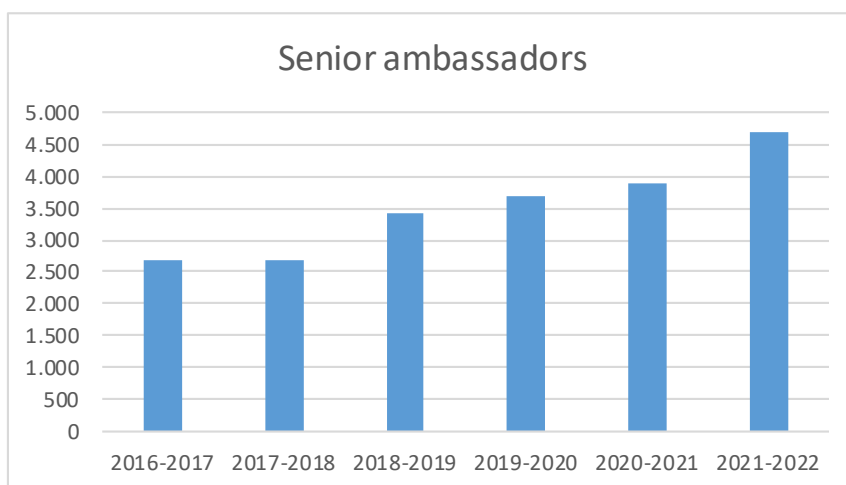
¹³ <https://comm-wiki.in.ep.europa.eu/wiki/display/EPLO/4.2+EUROPE+DIRECT>.

¹⁴ <https://youth.europarl.europa.eu/educators/learning-resources.html>.

to the difficulty of obtaining accurate data¹⁵, indirect outreach (e.g. the number of other teachers and students involved in EPAS activities and the number of students and parents attending EPAS events organised by schools) is not included in this report.

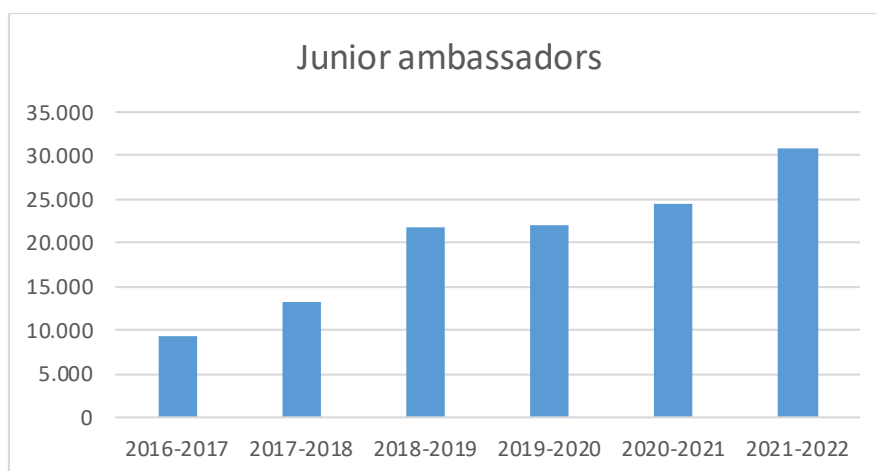
It should be noted that several EPLOs do not have the resources to continue expanding the number of schools. The fact that some offices have managed to increase the number of schools in 2021/2022 does not mean that they will be able to sustain this trend. Therefore, **the objective is to consolidate and strengthen the current network, possibly expanding its outreach** (in terms of numbers of teachers and students) **but not necessarily to increase the number of participating schools**¹⁶.

School Year	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	Growth
Senior ambassadors	2 676	2 691	3 431	3 682	3 897	4 671	+ 774
Junior ambassadors	9 375	13 239	21 800	21 979	24 566	30 781	+ 6.215
Certified schools	700	1 100	1 455	1 520	1 572	1 756	+ 184



¹⁵ The EPLOs have highlighted the challenges faced by national contractors in gathering accurate figures on the number of participants in activities organised by schools.

¹⁶ As stated in the 2021 and 2022 EPLOs Strategy and Programming.



4. CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The **COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath** posed the biggest challenge for the EPLOs in the 2021/2022 school year. Since most of the schools did not fully return to on-site teaching mode, online events led **to a lack of motivation**. Following two consecutive years of online activities, 'screen fatigue' and cancellations of live Euroscola events, many EPLOs mentioned that senior ambassadors felt there had been a loss of motivation among their students.

Despite the challenges, all the EPLOs successfully completed the programme.

EPLOs organised **342 EPAS events** and **160 students from EPAS schools** participated in Euroscola sessions.

EPAS schools hosted **10 444**¹⁷ EPAS events and activities (online and/or offline).

The gradual **transition to on-site events** started steadily increasing participants' engagement, motivation and involvement, as after the pandemic students are becoming more active again and more events are taking place. On the other hand, many EPLOs stated that, as a result of the pandemic, they are better prepared for organising **online activities**.

¹⁷ From September 2021 to August 2022.



As a result of **increased cross-border** cooperation and activities and despite the challenges posed by the pandemic and the transition to on-site or hybrid activities, the EPLOs mentioned the importance of building **more relationships with other schools and the local community**. They also underlined the improvement in student-teacher-parent relations and the exchange of good practices with other EPAS schools including those in other countries via offline activities.

The EPLOs mentioned that **the quality of involvement**, the number of highly innovative ideas and the number of interactions between schools within the network had all increased significantly.

The war in Ukraine strongly influenced EPAS activities in many countries. While many EPLOs were busy organising collections, information boards and other activities related to this issue that was uppermost in educators' minds, one EPLO mentioned that **the presence of students from Ukraine in some schools made the EPAS programme and the value of EU membership more relevant to students**.

A significant number of EPLOs mentioned the challenges posed by their **additional workload**, which did not leave time for EPAS activities. Moreover, some of the EPLOs mentioned that many schools are already involved in **many similar networks** (for example, Erasmus+ etc.) which, again, affects their motivation and engagement in EPAS activities.



A number of EPLOs mentioned the challenges posed by the **prevailing political context, misinformation and fluctuating public opinion on EU narratives** that made their engagement in the EPAS activities more challenging.

Hybrid education caused various interruptions in terms of the organisation and synchronisation of learning.

For some EPLOs, schools' remoteness and other **geographical challenges** made it difficult to invite MEPs and speakers. In these cases, EPLOs suggested alternative digital solutions. In the 2021/2022 school year the number of MEPs involved in schools' activities (online and/or offline) came to **391**¹⁸, seven more than in the 2020/2021 school year.

¹⁸ From September 2021 to August 2022.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

According to the EPLOs, the programme relies too heavily on voluntary work by teachers. Many senior ambassadors have limited support from their school's administration and have to work outside normal working hours to implement the programme successfully.

Official recognition of the programme could help encourage national educational authorities to recognise the hours teachers devote to the programme. The offices propose giving the Ambassador School programme a similar status to that of the eTwinning¹⁹ and Erasmus+²⁰ programmes.

In addition, the EPLOs recommend continuing to **expand the ways in which the EPAS network can reward** the most committed teachers and students.

As some EPLOs suggested, the need to organise activities online increased their flexibility in terms of finding **alternative solutions**. This meant barriers such as location, a shortage of time and a lack of substitute teachers were avoided, and training became more accessible to participating schools. Some EPLOs suggested **digital solutions** for geographically remote schools. Following on from this more inclusive experience, the EPLOs suggested organising hybrid activities in the future when necessary. Likewise, the EPLOs recommended more flexibility in the modes of activities and in engaging a wider audience.



One of the frequently mentioned recommendations highlighted the need to **include more schools and organise more transnational activities that promote exchanges between schools** (EPLOs mentioned the possibility of such activities happening online).

Finally, some EPLOs highlighted the need to provide **more promotional materials**, and they also suggested creating new ways to evaluate, collect and share best practices and examples of activities.

¹⁹ [European School Education Platform: eTwinning.](#)

²⁰ [European Commission: Erasmus+.](#)

6. PROGRAMME COMMUNICATION

The EPOs use closed platforms to communicate and engage with the educators taking part in the programme. Additionally, the EPOs promote the various programme activities through public social media accounts and by working with the mainstream media to expand the programme's reach and impact.

The Russian aggression against Ukraine that began in February 2022 represented a major challenge for all communication activities by the EPOs. This was even more so in the Member States bordering Ukraine and those hosting an influx of Ukrainian refugees. The enthusiasm expected following the decline of the COVID-19 pandemic was halted by the hostilities. A shift in communication approaches became necessary, **requiring sobriety and a change of tone.**

Nevertheless, the EU's united response boosted the 'stronger together' and 'democracy' narratives. However, in some Member States, citizens expected more from the EU and this put some EPOs under pressure. The direct impact on citizens of the subsequent energy crisis and soaring inflation directly challenged the unity of the EU response (e.g. the gas price cap) and added a new layer of difficulty for communicators.

6.1. The EPAS programme on social media

a) The offices

10 offices²¹ manage a public EPAS social media account, in addition to their primary EPO social media accounts. All these accounts have more than **8 850 followers**. Moreover, three EPOs (Austria, Ireland and Italy) have a social media account targeting the wider educational community. The three accounts together have around **37 700 followers**.

b) The schools

More than 450 EP Ambassador Schools have created a specific EPAS social media account. Together these social media accounts have more than **151 400 followers**.

c) The central Facebook page

The EPAS programme's Facebook page, mainly aimed at educators, has **6 049 followers**. During the 2021/2022 school year, more than 100 posts were published. Moreover, the content was shared more than 500 times and the posts had almost 2 000 reactions.

6.2. The EPAS programme in the media

Since the 2021/2022 school year, the Strategic Support Unit for EPOs and the Media Intelligence Unit started tracking the number of pieces reported on EPAS through the platform used by DG COMM.

²¹ Austria, Cyprus, Czechia, Finland, Greece, Latvia, Luxembourg, Romania, Slovakia and the United Kingdom.

During this pilot phase, 79 mentions in the media were registered. The majority were reported in Croatia (35, including 29 internet, 4 press, 1 radio, 1 TV), with 10 in Ireland (8 press, 2 internet) and 9 in Slovenia (4 internet, 4 press, 1 radio).

Relevant mentions of the EPAS programme on the web totalled 208, of which 95 were from Italy, 41 from Greece and 20 from Croatia.

Efforts to continue improving the system to track and report press coverage of Ambassador Schools in the various media channels more accurately are being stepped up.

ANNEX I: Compilation of highlighted activities

The EPOs and the EP Ambassador Schools organised a wide range of activities over the course of the 2021/2022 school year. The compilation below highlights a selection of the many initiatives taking place. This selection was made by the EPOs on the basis of criteria such as the activities' reach, originality, creativity and transnational²² character.

AUSTRIA

School of tomorrow - Future of Europe - Citizenship day at BG/BRG/BORG Eisenstadt (Burgenland)

As part of #erasmusdays 2021, the students of class 7A/G at BG/BRG/BORG Eisenstadt organised a citizenship day on 23 October 2021. The aim of the event was to inform 6th grade students about the future of education, aspects of digitalisation in the classroom and the Erasmus+ programme.



Questions such as 'what is the future of digitalisation in schools?', 'what measures are planned by politicians?' were answered by the guests Hannes Heide, MEP (EPP), and Daniela Winkler, Regional Minister for Education in Burgenland. Christian Pronai-Mariel, who heads the service unit for EU and international cooperation at the Department of Education, gave the young people information about the many opportunities offered by the Erasmus+ programme. Students of class 7A/G had already conducted interviews with teachers from the partner countries of an ongoing Erasmus+ project called 'T.I.M.E. - This is my Europe' and produced a video based on it, which was also shown. The entire event was organised and managed by the students themselves, and they also produced the content.

²² Please note that each entry highlights a specific angle.



Europe Day in Weiz (Styria)

To mark Europe Day, the Junior Ambassadors of the vocational school Handelsakademie Weiz organised a ceremony in the Weizer Kunsthaus to commemorate peace and the unity of Europe. The highpoint of the programme was a lecture by Lukas Mandl, MEP (EPP), who spoke about the challenges facing Europe and answered questions from the audience. To round off the event, the organisers had prepared a quiz on the Kahoot! platform, which was played directly in the hall on

a large screen. The event raised students' awareness of the important role the EU plays in everyday life and the aim is now for it to be held annually.

https://www.meinbezirk.at/weiz/c-lokales/fuer-die-hak-weiz-ist-die-europaeische-union-wichtig_a5349331#gallery=null

A week under the sign of Europe - Stiftsgymnasium Melk (Lower Austria)

Junior ambassadors of Stiftsgymnasium Melk organised a 'Europe Week' for the whole school. In a language workshop, students from the upper school taught the lower school classes the basics of their native languages. Through games and small exercises, they gained an insight into the diversity of Europe.

In cooperation with the school library, books related to Europe were prepared, which classes could work on during a 'reading picnic'. Several classes took up

the offer. Another group focused on international cooking habits. The junior ambassadors designed posters with general information about food cultures and recipes from all EU countries. They were tagged with QR codes and displayed in the hallway. On social media, some students presented the special features of different EU countries. The final event was a discussion with the online German YouTuber Marvin Neumann and the student representative Julian Kadlicz. The main focus was on the significance of the European Union for young people. The project was accompanied by a Europe quiz throughout the week.

With a great deal of work and a lot of commitment in their leisure time, the junior ambassadors successfully created a diverse programme for the entire school. In doing so, they made it clear that European politics and transnational European solidarity are close to their hearts.





Fairy tale journey through the European Union at Bildungsanstalt für Elementarpädagogik Innsbruck 2022 (Tyrol)

To mark Europe Day, Ambassador Class 1B took a close look at the story of Europe and developed two games about the history of the European Union. Class 2KA was invited to a 'fairy tale journey through the EU' after they had

studied fairy tales from different European countries in detail and explored the diversity of European cultures in German lessons. By connecting and sharing, fairy tales make an invaluable contribution to mutual understanding, remind us of our common past and point to a hopeful future.

BELGIUM

Quiz and cheese - Ecole internationale le Verseau

This new school in the programme organised a quiz and cheese tasting during the school's fair allowing them to reach teachers and parents as well as many students.



Tandem project - Robert Schuman Institut

The juniors from two different school years and from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds were brought together to learn about cultural differences, etc.

EPAS day at school - College Oostende

The seniors and juniors organised two EPAS days in their school. During one of them, they invited MEP Tom Vandenkendelaere (EPP) for an online discussion. The second EPAS day took place in Brussels with a visit to the Parliamentarium.



Exchange on migration and Ukraine - ITCF Val Itma

The juniors and seniors organised a day on migration with the presence of staff from Fedasil and Croix-Rouge and a debate with MEPs Benoît Lutgen (EPP) and Philippe Lamberts (Greens).

BULGARIA

Online European lessons for junior ambassadors with MEPs

The Sofia EPLO started a new initiative for junior ambassadors at the end of 2021 called European Lessons in which students had monthly 40-minute online meetings with MEPs from a range of political groups. Each lesson was dedicated to a particular theme that the MEP would focus on. MEPs had five minutes to present the main points of their topic with the rest of the time being a free Q&A session in which the MEP answered students' questions. The meetings were organised on a monthly basis and students met six MEPs in all. The students could join either as a



group in the classroom or individually from home. After each meeting, students wrote posts on their channels with the highlights from the lesson. The EPLO team tested different days of the week and times of day for the European lessons. Although it was challenging to find a timing for these meetings that would suit everybody, the European lessons proved popular and received a high level of interest. They helped raise students' awareness and deepen their knowledge in various policy areas. The students also became more familiar with differences between the positions of the political groups and the dynamics of the legislative process. The meetings also gave students a chance to have a conversation with MEPs and ask them questions directly.



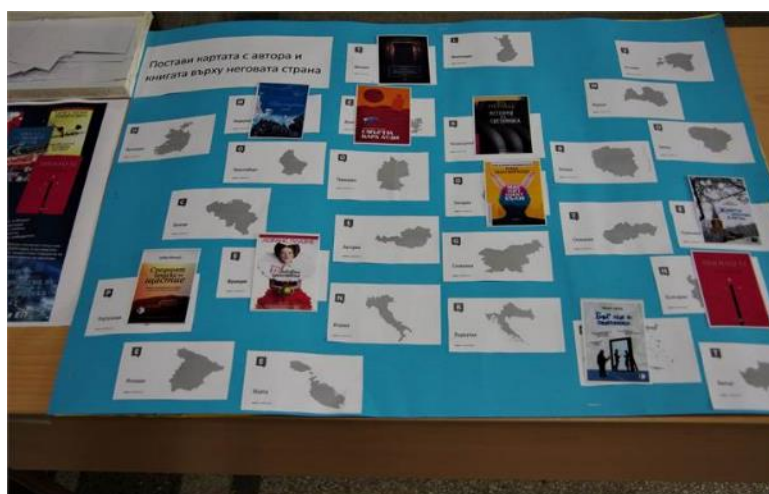
A Europe week involving the whole school community

To celebrate Europe Day, the High School of St Paisiy Hilendarski in Zlatitsa, Bulgaria, organised a series of events during the week of Europe Day. It involved the whole school community with different activities adapted to the various age groups. Most of the school's teachers took part in organising activities linked to EU themes, with the crucial support of the school management. The youngest pupils (year 1-4) made EU-themed posters and prepared an exhibition in the school corridors; 5th graders designed an exhibition on tourist attractions in EU countries; 6th and 7th graders held a discussion with a local NGO on tolerance and stereotypes; 8th graders prepared a series of presentations; 9th graders held a discussion on EU values; 10th graders organised a role-playing game on the European Court of Justice's 'Chocolate case study'; while 11th graders had a meeting on possibilities for internships at international companies.

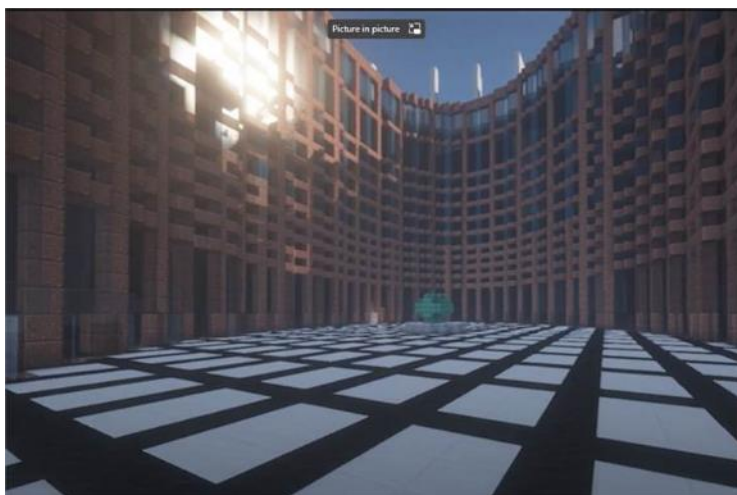
In addition, they invited two popular TV journalists for a meeting with students, and many students took part in external activities and competitions, linked to EU themes such as essay competitions and the Run4EU half-marathon for students. The EU-themed week in May was a memorable event. It involved most of the school and had a lasting impact. The photo shows a previous activity at the school, at which junior ambassadors made a school radio show to raise awareness of human rights activists.

An innovative way to celebrate the EU Prize for Literature

Students from the Ivan Vazov Maths High School in Dimitrovgrad organised a charity event in their school in the week before World Book Day (23 April) to raise awareness on the EU Prize for Literature. They sold home-made food and ran games for the visitors. The proceeds of the activities were used to buy 20 books that had been awarded the EU Prize for literature, which were donated to the city library. This showed the students' ability to act proactively, raised



awareness of the prize and its winners, as well as Europe's linguistic diversity, and supported their city library. The initiative received local media attention, thus promoting it even further.



Creating a model of the EP building in Minecraft

Junior ambassadors from the Asen Yordanov private school in Ivanyane made a model of the European Parliament building in Strasbourg in their favourite game Minecraft. The project took around three months to complete, and involved a collaboration between six participants, with a close study of both the interior and exterior of the real building. The aim of the project was to create a place in which junior

ambassadors could develop games and quizzes related to EU history and its institutions. The model was an attractive way to raise the interest of their peers in EU topics. Three of the participants recorded a video to describe what they did:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6mT0tFWm5Y>

CROATIA

Youth and the future of education

Some of the topics discussed at the conference in Pula held by the Zagreb EPLO included how to make best use of the European funds available to Croatian educational institutions, how to connect educational systems with the needs of the labour market and how to raise educational standards. Participants included EPAS students from Pula, MEP Sunčana Glavak (EPP), MEP Valter Flego (Renew Europe), the president of the Parliamentary Committee for Education, Science and Culture of the Croatian Parliament Vesna Bedeković, vice-rector of the University of Pula Mirjana Radetić-Paić and Ines Pruginić, a graduate teacher at the University of Pula.





Europe Day 2022

Europe Day 2022 was marked in partnership with the EC Representation in Croatia. There was a full-day programme with various workshops, activities and lectures - and this was the first opportunity in two years to bring some of the EPAS students from elsewhere in the country to Zagreb.



Youth and the IT future

The Zagreb EPLO organised a conference on youth and the information technology (IT) future in Osijek, where EPAS students were able to talk to MEP Karlo Ressler (EPP), professor Robert Cupec from the Osijek University, and Ivan Ostheimer from the Osijek Software City. The conference was followed by a together.eu workshop.



EPAS Together

In cooperation with the Budapest, Bratislava and Vienna EPLOs there was a gathering of 250 EPAS juniors and seniors in Zagreb for a two-day youth event. At the event, EPAS students were participating in various educational and entertaining activities, along with Together.eu volunteers and influencers, joined by MEPs, artists, and stakeholders.

CYPRUS

EU4YOU TV programme

Junior ambassadors from various EPAS schools in Cyprus participated in the Cyprus Broadcasting Cooperation (CYBC) TV programme EU4You. Junior ambassadors from Larnaca district shared their opinions in a discussion with the head of the Cyprus EPLO Mr Andreas Kettis. Junior ambassadors from Limassol district held a discussion with MEP Lefteris Christoforou (EPP) about migration issues and junior ambassadors from Nicosia district held a discussion with MEP Costas Mavrides (S&D).





Human Rights Action-Strovolos Lyceum

The junior ambassadors worked with the NGO 'Generation for Change' and took part in its 'donation drive' programme. They also did voluntary work involving donating food and other essentials to migrants and their families. In addition, they conducted research, preparing a questionnaire on human rights and gathering results from the school community and the general public.

Europe Day - Larnaca District

The junior ambassadors from various schools in the Larnaca/Famagusta district participated in the Europe day events organised by the municipality of Larnaca. EPLO representatives attended the event and it was a great opportunity for junior ambassadors to meet and interact.





Online School Conference between Greece and Cyprus

On 5 May an online school conference between Greece and Cyprus entitled 'Young people are planning the future of Europe' brought together EPAS schools from Cyprus and Greece so junior ambassadors from Cyprus could talk about human rights and the migration crisis in Europe. Various stakeholders participated in the conference, including Vice-President of the European Commission Margaritis Schinas, MEP Costas Mavrides (S&D), the Head of the EPLO in Cyprus, Andreas Kettis, and the Head of the EPLO in Greece, Costas Tsoutsoplides. The initiative was considered best practice as senior and junior ambassadors had the opportunity to meet EPAS schools from another country, participate, and work together with great enthusiasm.

CZECHIA

Sakharov Prize 2021 for Czech and Slovak EPAS students

This two-hour event was centred around two of the nominees for that year's Sakharov Prize: Alexej Navalny and the democracy movement in Russia; and Afghan Women and women's rights under the Taliban regime. The students were given a presentation

about the Sakharov Prize and an overview of human rights in the world. One of the highlights of the programme was an interview with Sahraa Karimi - one of the 11 Afghan women who were nominated. She talked to students about life in Afghanistan, her personal experience of the

10:00 - 10:05	Otevření online diskuze – Róbert Sermek, vedoucí Kanceláře EP v SR
10:05 - 10:10	První část průzkumu pro studenty – Slido
10:10 - 10:20	Představení Sacharovovy ceny za svobodu myšlení, udělované Evropským parlamentem – Jindřich Pietras, vedoucí komunikačního oddělení kanceláře EP v ČR
10:20 - 10:30	Lidská práva a svobody a jejich ochrana v Evropské unii, představení Ligy za lidská práva – Zuzana Števelová, Liga za lidská práva
10:35 - 10:50	Interview s členkou hnutí afghánských žen – Sahraa Karimi, první žena v čele Afghánské státní filmové společnosti a letošní nominantka Sacharovovy ceny
10:50 - 11:35	Diskuze na téma lidských práv, Sacharovovy ceny 2021 a jejich laureátů (otázky budou kladeny prostřednictvím slido) Radka Maxová, poslankyně EP za frakci S&D Iva Štefanec, poslaneček EP za frakci EPP Sahraa Karimi, členka hnutí afghánských žen Petra Procházková, novinářka a humanitární pracovníce Ondřej Soukup, novinář
11:35 - 11:40	Druhá část průzkumu pro studenty – Slido
11:40 - 12:00	Vědomostní kvíz pro studenty – Kahoot!IT

Taliban and her lifelong fight for women's rights. The testimonial was very emotional and moving. In the second half of the event there was a discussion with two MEPs - Ivan Štefanec (EPP) from Slovakia and Radka Maxová (S&D) from Czechia. They were accompanied in the discussion by Zuzana Številová (a Slovak human rights expert) and Petra Procházková (a Czech investigative journalist). The students were very active throughout the event and asked many interesting questions via the sli.do Q&A and polling platform. The event finished with a Kahoot quiz in which 218 students took part.



Together.eu EU Online Pub Quizzes

Students gained access to activities in other countries via the together.eu platform, such as the EU Pub Quiz online organised by Irish or German colleagues. Students tested their knowledge of the EU and also practised their language skills.

Debates with MEPs

Students are always very interested in debates with MEPs. Junior ambassadors, supported by their senior ambassadors, organised debates, which were usually open to the whole school. At these events MEPs explained how the EP works and what their work involves. Students are also interested in the issues that Parliament is currently dealing with, such as disinformation, the Green Deal, Ukraine or digital platforms. During the COVID-19 pandemic, most meetings took place online, with MEPs visiting schools in person again in the spring of 2022. This year debates were held at six schools involving eight MEPs.





EPAS schools and the war in Ukraine

The war in Ukraine influenced the direction of activities in EPAS schools. Junior ambassadors from all EPAS schools organised debates and presentations on the situation in Ukraine, prepared information materials that they shared with other students and on their EPAS social media accounts. They also expressed their solidarity by organising collections for Ukrainian refugees at their schools.

DENMARK



The EU in Central Jutland

One EPAS class participated in a pilot project with the organisation DEO on the EU in the Central Jutland region. The class travelled around by bus and visited an East Jutland farmer, Kalø Ecological Agricultural School and the company BRMV in Herning. The programme focused on free movement (goods, people, and capital) and the EU's agricultural policy. The students explored

questions such as what does the EU mean for the region's companies, organisations and citizens? How, for better or for worse, does the EU create the framework for regional development, agriculture and work? Following on from the course on the EU, the class investigated how the EU affects small and medium-sized enterprises in the Central Jutland region. The purpose was to bring the real world into the classroom, with students themselves choosing which companies to contact. Thomas Steen Hansen from the Central Denmark EU Office (CDEU) in Aarhus gave a presentation to the class as a part of this activity. The class also visited an organic milk producer, Niels Hedegaard, in Them, Central Denmark. The focus of the visit was to make the EU's influence on Danes, including the impact of agricultural support, more tangible.



year.

Webinars

The EPLO in Denmark organised webinars on a range of different EU-related topics with 50-1 600 participants per webinar. The EPAS schools decided the topics and the contractor arranged and facilitated more than 45 webinars during the 2021/2022 school

Several debates - Conferences on the Future of Europe

The Ambassador Schools arranged several debates on the Future of Europe, mostly in April and May, coinciding with Denmark's referendum on participation in EU defence cooperation. Two to four politicians took part in each debate with the whole school listening and asking questions.

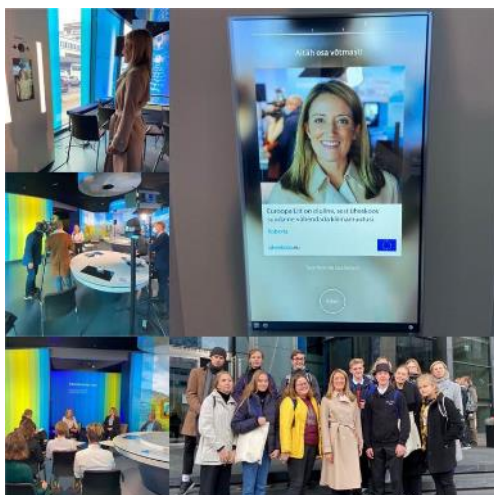


Focus on the EU and food waste with European schools:

A presentation was given by Martin Lidegaard about the EU and common areas of action, another by Henning Morgen/Maersk on container shipping and food waste, and a debate was held in the classes with the partner schools' students with 5-8 guest students in each class from the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Italy, Croatia and France.



ESTONIA



Meeting of EPAS participants with Vice-President Roberta Metsola

The Estonia EPLO organised an opening of the EPAS 2021/2022 season in September 2021, including a panel discussion in the presence of then Vice-President Roberta Metsola, as well as an info day for pupils and teachers.

Connection with EP prizes - event on the Sakharov Prize

An EPAS seminar was held in November 2021 on the importance of the Sakharov Prize and past prize-winners.



EPAS goes local

An event was organised in April 2022 with the active participation of pupils from Tartu, Estonia's second largest city.

Transnational EPAS Together event in summer 2022

A transnational event for about 130 EPAS participants from four countries, including pupils and teachers, was organised.



FINLAND

EPAS Together in Tallinn, August 2022

The EPLOs in Tallinn, Helsinki, Riga and Vilnius organised a transnational EPAS Together event in Tallinn/Estonia on 25 and 26 August 2022. The two-day event offered activities, workshops (on four themes: Freedom/Values; Elections/Your Voice Counts; Education/Teaching EU at school - on countering disinformation - and the House of Europe/role-play game) networking and fun for some 130 students from four countries around the Baltic.



Launch of CoFoE ministerial tour at the Europe House, September 2021



A CoFoE ministerial tour took place around Finland with a series of discussion events in the second half 2021 and first half of 2022. As part of the tour launch, the European Affairs Minister, one of the Finnish MEPs and an MP - the latter two double-hatted as CoFoE representatives, took part in a Europe House panel debate on 15 September 2021 with a number of EPAS students asking

questions about the EU and its future.

Kaleva Upper Secondary School Erasmus trip, April 2022

Kaleva upper secondary school from Tampere and Gym Braunau from Austria organised a weeklong Erasmus trip to Brussels. The students' programme included visits to the European Parliament, the Commission, the Council of Ministers, the Committee of the Regions, etc. Students got to interview both an EP interpreter and MEP Ville Niinistö (Greens/EFA). The message was: study languages!



FRANCE

French-Portuguese EPAS high school exchange

At the end of March 2022, the vocational high school in Sillac (Angoulême) hosted a class from the EPAS Agrupamento de Escolas de Arganil high school for a week. In addition to workshops and a simulation of the European Parliament, the students reflected together on the issue of the integration of migrants in the different school systems, and more particularly through sport, asking the question 'sport: a bridge to integration and inclusion?'



High school students in Strasbourg for LUX Audience Award ceremony

The Jean d'Arcet vocational high school (Aire sur l'Adour) took part in the quiz on European cinema and was lucky enough to send two junior and two senior ambassadors to Strasbourg on 8 June for the LUX Audience Award ceremony in plenary session. They were able to enjoy a rich programme of visits and meetings, and meet Czech students and teachers.

Women's Rights day: What is the European Parliament doing?

On the occasion of the Women's Rights Day, the Martin Nadaud vocational high school organised a debate on the issues related to gender equality. MEP Chrysoula Zacharopoulou (Renew) (then member of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality) came along to discuss with them what the EP is doing in this field.



A festive 9 May in Cavillon

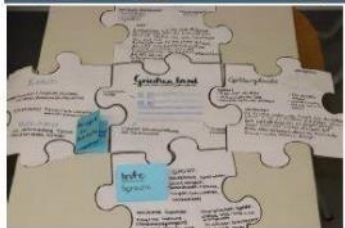
The Alexandre Dumas vocational high school (Cavaillon) organised a range of festivities for 9 May including a quiz, a cooperative puzzle, an exhibition on the EU, questionnaires and workshops run by the different sections of high school. The school was decorated in the colours of the European Union and, for the occasion, the school bell was replaced by the European anthem!



GERMANY

Comprehensive project day for the whole school community

A wide-ranging EU project day was organised addressing all grades, to share and highlight the commitment of the junior ambassadors in the project.



Who we are!

The junior ambassadors made their own film about their commitment independently and with minimal support from teachers.

LGBTIQ in the EU

The junior ambassadors launched a campaign on LGBTIQ. They prepared a range of information sheets for their fellow students and invited them to design posters.





Does the EU need a new border policy?

The ambassador team organised a panel discussion with MEPs Axel Voss (EPP) and Özlem Demirel (The Left) as well as the mayor and a representative of the sea-rescue NGO Sea-Eye. The event was moderated by a radio journalist.

EU Summer Academy

42 participants from Germany, Austria and Luxembourg aged between 16 and 30 took part in the European Parliament's first EU Summer Academy from 1 to 4 August 2022. The programme offered a mixture of politics, skills training, development of project ideas and networking. Other activities included a visit to the dome of the Reichstag and an interactive exhibition at the Europa Experience building.



GREECE

Action on Europe Day rights

Vocational Senior High School of Prosotsani, Drama, Eastern Macedonia and Thrace. For Europe Day, students held an event attended by MEP Mr Dimitrios Papadimoulis (The Left), who was asked questions about key issues concerning the EU. The students used the educational tool 'The EU in our daily life' to prepare the activity and were supported by the local Europe Direct centre as well as district schools participating in the organisation of the event.



The activity was publicised on the school's social media and through the General Lyceum of Kalambakia, which was also actively involved. The main good practice that emerged from the action was the creation of videos on Europe Day and the Schuman Plan. The students also used the educational tool 'The EU in our daily life'.



Theatre

The students of the Special Gymnasium – Lyceum of Agrinio put on a play centring around how the ancient Greek theatre and the ancient Greek tragedy contributed to European civilisation.

<https://www.agrinionews.gr/to-en-e-e-gy-l-agriniy-archaio-theatro-kalydonas-foto/>

Actions on the day against gender-based violence

The symbolic lighting of Kalamata City Hall on the Day against Women’s Violence was one of the most characteristic actions. It was accompanied by audiovisual material about the abuse suffered by women



prepared by the students of the third General Lyceum of Kalamata.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Ctr9yYh-rA>

<https://www.messinialive.gr/symvoliki-fotagogisi-tou-istorikou-dimarcheiu-spasoume-siopi-gia-via-kata-ton-gynaikon/>



Song on Women’s Rights

Adaptation of the song ‘[My name is yours](#)’ ([Grammenos](#)) by the junior ambassadors. Their lyrics tell the story of recent femicides in Greece, and so reinforce collective historical memory, raise awareness of this acute problem, build empathy and spur action. The adaptation attracted nearly 25 000 views in just a month and was widely promoted by local TV channels and sites.

HUNGARY

EPAS together Zagreb

The European Parliament Liaison Offices in Budapest, Zagreb, Bratislava and Vienna co-organised a cross-border youth event under the EPAS programme, held in Zagreb on 20-21 May 2022. The aim of the two-day event was to give students an opportunity to discuss the future of Europe. About 210 students and their teachers from Croatia, Hungary, Austria and Slovakia took part. This event was the first time that members of the EPAS programme from four countries have met, trained together in an international environment and talked about the future of Europe and the future for young people. The atmosphere at the two-day event was excellent and the participants were enthusiastic and active. The event strengthened the EPAS community and relationships between the members.



EPAS senior ambassadors' national meet-up

On 22 April 2022, the EPLO in Hungary held a full-day event for senior ambassadors, attended by educators from several parts of the country. Teachers were able to brainstorm on future directions and projects together with EPLO Budapest, as well as share best practice ideas. In the morning, Sara Martos from DG COMM joined the event via Zoom and shared EPAS programme updates in an interactive session. During the day, the senior ambassadors were also able to attend a lecture on EU News presented by the Representation of the European Commission. Moreover, a speaker from Tempus Foundation - a partner organisation of EPLO Budapest - presented the developments within the education sector on European level. The event was hugely successful; it was a great occasion for networking and gave the Hungarian EPAS community an extra boost.

Bródy Superman project

This initiative was part of the Veszprém-Balaton 2023 European Capital of Culture project. It drew attention to the importance of European values and to some of the threats they are currently facing. The high school was named after Imre Bródy, a Hungarian physicist who invented the krypton electric bulb in 1930. The town, where the school is located, is also home to the world's first krypton factory, where the production of krypton-filled lamps began in 1937. Today the building is being renovated and converted into a visitor centre as part of the Veszprém-Balaton 2023 European Capital of Culture. The school organised a programme series involving the krypton factory. Through the character of Imre Bródy, European values were emphasised and the students completed a range of inspiring tasks.



Europe Day - some of the best examples

Some of the outstanding examples of activities during Europe day from different high schools were:

István Széchenyi Baptist High School: four students from each class could apply to a group, each of which was named after a well-known EU city.

Each group took part in

a specific activity, such as EU lessons, visits of the Knowledge Centre, an obstacle course race, an EP election simulation game, EU poster creation and EU quiz. Two groups even engaged in bilingual conversations over the Erasmus+ programme (English and German).. The Ady Endre High School in Debrecen ran a flag contest in which every class was assigned a flag and students in the class had to draw it and dress in its colours. The classes also had to prepare a county-specific dish, name a typical landmark from the country and do some written work. The projects were judged by the students themselves and the prizes awarded were all sustainable products.

The Economic Polytechnic Alternative High School ran a range of programmes for different age groups. For 7th and 8th grades there were Erasmus+ project tasks; for the 9th grade there was an EU quiz; the 9th and 10th grades could choose from different workshops either in English or in Hungarian; the 11th grade looked at issues such as studying abroad, job opportunities and Brexit; and 12th grade students attended a talk by MEP István Ujhelyi (S&D).

IRELAND



Ode to Joy in Junk Couture

Colaiste Nano Nagle in Limerick entered the Junk Couture International competition with their design 'Ode to Joy', symbolising the values and principles of the EU and its efforts to fight climate change. Their entry was shortlisted in the Irish competition and will now represent Ireland in the World Final in Abu Dhabi. They also featured on the Late Late Show on Ireland's national broadcaster RTE.

<https://www.ilovelimerick.ie/colaiste-nano-nagle-2022/>

<https://www.limerickleader.ie/news/home/807580/limerick-students-to-represent-ireland-at-junk-kouture-world-final-in-abu-dhabi.html>

Charitable initiatives supporting Ukraine

St. Kevin's Community College, Co. Wicklow and Christ King Secondary School, Co Cork ran EU bake sales with proceeds going to charity.

Colaiste Chiarain had a non-uniform day with class groups being assigned an EU nation and wearing only the colours of that nation's flag. Donations raised were given to the Red Cross to support the humanitarian effort in Ukraine.



Eurovision Lip Sync Contest

Mercy Secondary School Mounthawk Tralee hosted a Eurovision Lip Sync, which was a huge success. The video had 1 000 views online.

Award Ceremonies

Three award ceremonies were hosted to mark Europe Day 2022 in the three constituencies: Dublin, Midlands North-West and South. There was also a Q&A session between students and MEPs. The MEPs who attended were France Fitzgerald (EPP) for Dublin, Grace O’Sullivan (Greens), Deirdre Clune (EPP), Billy Kelleher (Renew) and Seán Kelly (EPP) for South and Maria Walsh (EPP) and Colm Markey (EPP) for Midlands Northwest.



ITALY

Debate on the future of Europe and a dance performance

Students participated in a range of courses and debates on the future of Europe and presented the videos related to the #ilfuturoetuo contest. The students of the Liceo Coreutico danced accompanied by a waltz to express the idea of culture as an instrument of peace.



EUROPE IN DRAMA

In cooperation with the school’s Drama lab group a show was performed in English on European institutions and values entitled ‘Europe in Drama’. After the European week, on 21st May 2022, senior ambassadors organised an official ceremony at which, in the presence of the Headmaster, Mr Luca Stefani, they awarded the junior ambassadors with their junior ambassador certificates. The event reached 800 people indirectly and more through Instagram.

No war...peace

The students worked on the meaning of European citizenship by raising awareness among their peers of the meaning of the European Union, its relative history, and of European citizenship. They invited the school's other students to share the values of peace and to take part by inserting themselves into the 'PEACE' image.



Tribute to David Sassoli

Europe Day was celebrated with the participation of the five Marche schools that joined the EPAS project. The students from one school talked about their experience of this school year and then gathered their speeches into four main categories: 'I learnt', 'I feel European because ...', 'What I ask of the EU' and 'I am willing to...'. This event was also a moment to remember David Sassoli, his message and his aspirations for Europe.



LATVIA



Explore to Understand

A series of events was run to celebrate Europe Day in Riga Centre Humanitarian Secondary School. The aim of the activity was to raise awareness about the EU, its role in everyday life and cultural diversity. Special attention was paid to solidarity with Ukraine and its people. The event was organised as a series of interactive debates in four 'rooms': 1) Latvia's path to the EU; 2) music and modern art; 3) cinema; 4) languages and literature. The event was supplemented with an exhibition to

support Ukraine. This innovative Europe day celebration involved the interaction of diverse methods, participants and engagement of students. The event was aimed at peers in the school and involved partners from the NGO sector, experts and senior ambassadors, as well as MEPs. The junior ambassadors widely presented the Europe day celebration on the internet (rchv.lv) and via

the Instagram (@maciesrchv, @rchveuambassadors) and Facebook (RCHVEU Ambassadors) social media platforms.



Civil participation and citizenship

The junior ambassadors prepared an excellent project searching for opportunities to reduce youth unemployment in their city of Daugavpils. In order to arrive at practical recommendations students conducted a survey, interviewed various representatives of the City Council and agencies with relevant responsibilities. In the end, they came up with solutions, which were accepted by the local authorities. Students learned and demonstrated how participation and activism can work.



Youth Initiative project

Junior Ambassadors of the Rezekne Polish State Gymnasium prepared a variety of interactive teaching materials on parliamentary democracy based on the game methodology. These games can be adapted to different localities making them attractive to many schools within the EPAS community and beyond.



Open lectures

Almost all EP Ambassador Schools regularly organise open lectures to which they invite MEPs and demonstrate their own innovative methods for teaching EU-related subjects. Pupils and community members are invited to join the event, thus sharing information on the EU and European Parliament.

LITHUANIA

Support to Ukraine - a lesson in solidarity

Activities in support of Ukraine took place at many EP Ambassador Schools this year. Some of them joined forces with municipalities and collected food and clothes for refugees. Others had Ukrainian students join their community; still others expressed their support to Ukraine via arts, installations and demonstrations and by sending letters to their Ukrainian counterparts in several cities. This was and continues to be a lesson in true European solidarity.

<https://www.birzai.lt/gyventojams/naujienos/35/europos-diena-paramos-kovojanciai-ukrainai-akcija:2348>; <https://www.facebook.com/page/1493364784208413/search/?q=MEPA>



EPAS blog

Mažeikiai Merkelio Račkausko Gymnasium has created an EPAS news page for all the activities they implement during the project.

<https://mmrgmepa.mozello.lt/naujienos/renginiai/>

International cooperation - European Day of Music

Several Lithuanian schools (including a number of EPAS schools) submitted their contributions to the European Day of Music video TOGETHER (Lyrics and music by Bert Appermont):



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRL9_wy77vA

Specific lesson for the Conference on the Future of Europe

In order to help EPAS schools be more active on the CoFoE platform, EPLO in Lithuania developed (with the help of EPAS contractors) a lesson dedicated to CoFoE. It includes practical information on how to register on the platform and then suggests several ways of discussing the themes of the conference. Green Europe is taken as an example. Using the suggested methods, teachers conducted over 80 lessons on CoFoE. Some of them submitted their ideas to the platform at the end of the lesson. The lesson is available for download from <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/lithuania/lt/mokykloms/projekto-medžiaga>



LUXEMBOURG

Shaping Europe

The 'Shaping Europe' events regularly bring together between 36 and 45 junior ambassadors from three different countries. MEPs from each participating country invite junior ambassadors to give their input on a decision the MEPs will have to make in the coming months. Junior ambassadors first meet to discuss among themselves before presenting their ideas to MEPs at a follow-up event. Speakers are recorded on video, so that their ideas can be shared on a YouTube



playlist:

<https://www.facebook.com/parlement.europeen.luxembourg/videos/452901076213069>.

EPAS rally 9 May

Five EP Ambassador Schools took part in the EPAS rally on 9 May 2022 in Esch-sur-Alzette. The rally included three stages during which students discussed the topics of sustainable development and artificial intelligence, and honed their negotiating skills:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUs7jzu_n_s



Europe Week

During the week of 9 May, junior and senior ambassadors from École privée St Anne presented a series of European countries to the school community, including their traditions, history, and geography and fun facts. The ambassadors produced a video on each country:



- Italy: <https://youtu.be/Vx2BJM1m2qo>
- France: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nP-Z1Vo8DXE>
- Sweden: <https://youtu.be/LNRL91CePmE>
- Austria: <https://youtu.be/fCO-CebTTUQ>



Welcome party for new Ukrainian students

Junior ambassadors at the Lycée Edward Steichen Clervaux organised a welcome party for the school's new students from Ukraine to give these new students a warm welcome. The event was open to the whole school community.

MALTA

Contacting schools

Throughout the month of November 2021, the contractor contacted schools all over Malta and Gozo to promote the initiative and recruit a maximum of six schools according to the contract to participate in the programme. Through in-person and online meetings, the contractor gave thorough explanations of the material to be relayed to students; incentives offered and specified the preferred cohorts to include in the project. Once confirmed, the participating schools were recorded and relevant information sent by email. The contractor also responded to queries arising during the programme by telephone.

Teaching materials

Before the event, the contractor sent the teaching material, in the form of a link to the EP website where students could find relevant information to prepare for a quiz.

Every school took it upon itself to deliver the material in the way they considered appropriate for their students. Some schools chose to integrate the material into their history, geography or European studies lessons, while a number of schools held extra lessons during break time at which they trained their students on the topics provided.

Quizzes

Throughout the month of February 2022, the contractor visited each school and held a quiz to pick five students to represent the school in the final quiz on 9 May - Europe Day. The schools were asked to divide their students into teams of five. The winning team at each school was then selected to represent it.

Final match of the quiz

The Europe Day celebrations in Valletta included a final quiz in which the six participating schools were invited to compete. The winning school in 2022 was St Martin's College. The students were awarded a prize for their efforts.

THE NETHERLANDS

Six video blogs with vocational students about their visit to the European Parliament

Senior and influential journalist Kees Boonman and documentary maker Liesbeth Witteman made six vlogs with secondary-level vocational (MBO) students from the EPAS programme as interviewers. Together with the journalists, the students discovered the workings of the European Parliament in Brussels, met several MEPs, including President of the European Parliament Roberta Metsola (EPP) and interviewed several Dutch MEPs. These vlogs will be shown at the EP Ambassador Schools during the coming school year to make the students aware of the role of the EP.



<https://bit.ly/3B40Rau>

Webinar and seminar on Missing Children

This was a webinar about missing migrant children in the Netherlands. In the 202/2021 school year, in an example of cross-border EPAS collaboration and friendship, a junior EP ambassador from Greece and a former junior EP ambassador from the Netherlands jointly moderated a webinar on missing children. They invited Ms Geesje van Haren, co-founder 'Lost in Europe' (cross-border journalism project), Ms Catharina Rinzema, Dutch MEP (Renew) and vice-chair of the EP Intergroup on Children's Rights, Mr Syed Hasnain, Project Officer for Children in Migration, Missing Children Europe, Mr Christos Sozopoulos, from the non-profit child welfare organisation 'The Smile of the Child', Greece.



As a result of this webinar, the Dutch junior ambassadors were invited to attend an event about human rights violations against children and young people in Ukraine. The meeting was organised by the MEPs Ms Catharina Rinzema (Renew), Mr Dragoş Pîslaru (Renew) and Ms Michaela Sojdrová (EPP), in Brussels and was streamed so the other junior and senior ambassadors could attend online.



Cross EU eTwinning project on CoFoE

The eTwinning coordinator, Nicole Wieringa, ran a six-month eTwinning project (November 2021 - May 2022) with 50 schools across the EU and 74 participating junior ambassadors. The junior ambassadors gathered ideas from their fellow students for the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE) and acted as spokespersons for their schools in

the webinars. A preparatory webinar was organised, followed by webinars on each of the five CoFoE topics and a closing webinar. For more, see the Canva presentation:

<https://youtu.be/HHaQjVcWW80>

Junior day and kick-off of sustainability project

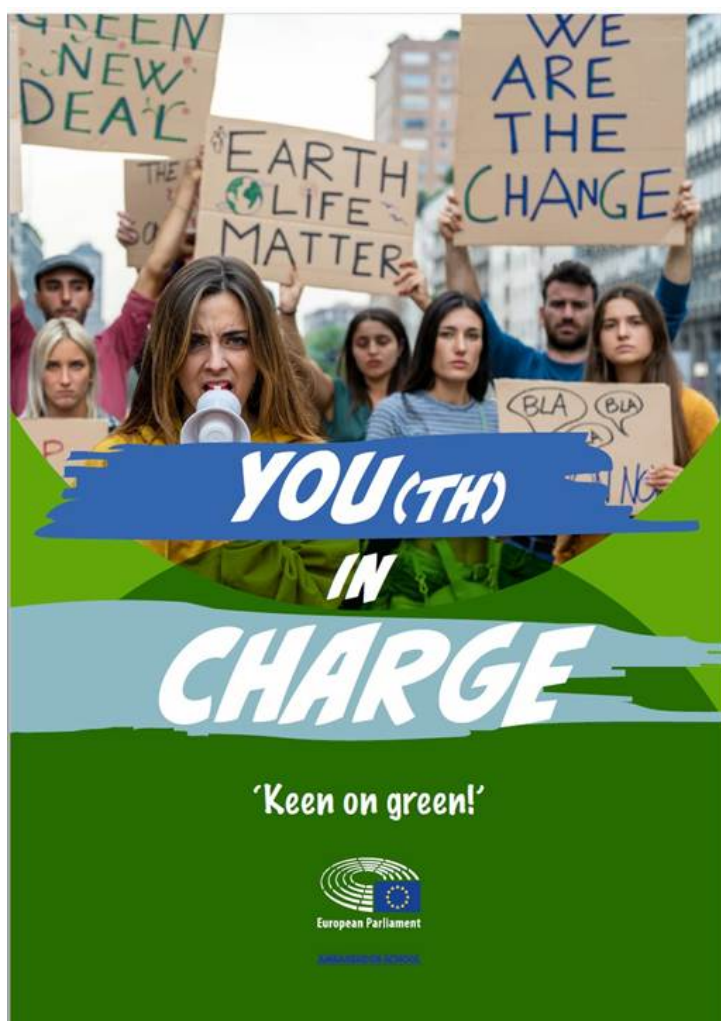
On 15 June 2022, the Curio Vocational College in Roosendaal hosted the EPAS junior day for intermediate vocational schools for 200 juniors and 30 seniors on the topic of sustainability.

After the opening show by the Dutch group De Kiesmannen, various partners provided workshops with the theme of 'keen on green'. De Nijmegen-based water museum, De Bastei, taught students about the intricacies of proper water management while the Dutch Youth Council spoke about more sustainable eating habits. There was an escape room game about plastic in the oceans. Also very popular was the workshop by Kiki Boreel, fashion model and climate ambassador, who provided practical tips for a more sustainable wardrobe. Teachers attended a lecture by Didier Herbert, Head of the Commission Representation in the Netherlands.

At the end of the day, Dutch MEP

Mohammed Chahim (S&D) answered questions about his lobbying for the climate, the ins and outs of nuclear energy and made a pledge to do his utmost for traineeships in the European Parliament for vocational students.

Throughout the day, students of Curio Roosendaal volunteered to create a perfect experience for all attending. The hospitality students provided the welcome coffee and snacks, and were dressed



professionally in black and white. As for the food, the students prepared a delicious vegan lunch and the trainee florists made flower arrangements in blue and yellow to decorate the meeting hall. The audiovisual students filmed the ongoing activities (even used a drone) and a short movie of this day will be featured soon. This made it possible to involve the students directly in the organisation of the EPAS junior day and gave them ownership of the project.

POLAND



Polish-German cross-border event for EPAS Senior Ambassadors

On 16-19 March 2022, a group of 24 German and Polish teachers took part in the first on-site cross-border event for EPAS schools from the two countries. The event followed up on the remote matching event for the two networks that took place in 2021. The project was carried out jointly by EPOs in Warsaw and Berlin, with the support of the German-Polish Youth Office.

Polish junior ambassadors learn how to podcast

As part of this project, EPO Warsaw invited four junior ambassador groups from different schools to attend a series of professional workshops on podcasting. The participating students went on to produce and promote their own Europe-themed podcasts, one of which featured an interview with MEP Elżbieta Łukacijewska (EPP).



Educational materials on Europe for students with special needs

Having welcomed our first special needs school to the EPAS programme a year ago, EPO Warsaw decided to develop dedicated teaching materials on Europe based on existing resources.

Junior ambassadors create their own EPAS drawstring bag

This time round EPAS junior ambassadors were invited to design their own EPAS-themed drawstring bag. The winning entry was produced and sent to all EPAS schools across Poland.



PORTUGAL



First National Meeting of European Parliament Ambassadors Schools at the Olga de Cadaval cultural centre – Sintra

On 3-4 June, the Leal da Câmara School ran the 1st National Meeting of European Parliament Ambassadors Schools, which was held at the Olga de Cadaval cultural centre, in Sintra, with the participation of around 120 senior and junior ambassadors.

The Future of Europe is with Me! Peace! For a Europe of Values!

This was a celebration of the proclamation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and International Human Rights Day.



Europe.

'European Union – What are European values?'

Commemorative soiree, under the theme: 'European Union – What are European values? The Quinta das Flores Ambassador School in Coimbra, promoted a soiree celebrating Europe Day, the importance of the EU and the relevance of European values. The commemorative soiree (a mixture of music, dance, poetry, theatre and other arts) was truly emotional and full of European significance with an appeal for solidarity with Ukraine and the millions of refugees seeking refuge in

'Looking beyond the difference'

'Looking beyond the difference' was an activity by the Arganil Secondary School / Lycée des Métiers Enseignement professionnel de Sillac to build bridges between peoples and countries. Arganil and Angoulême Secondary are part of this programme. The main topics of the event were migration and the role of sport in the integration of immigrants.

Concelho de Arganil **A COMARCA** 7

Grupo Folclórico da Região de Arganil continua bem vivo

Atividades para este ano de 2022

A constituição dos corpos sociais

AE ARGANIL
Quando a Escola constrói pontes entre pessoas, culturas e países!

72 A COMARCA
REVISTA COMARCENSE DE ARGANIL

ROMANIA



The 'Lucky Ticket'

Junior ambassadors prepared interactive information sessions to introduce their peers to EU-related knowledge in an interactive way. Students were asked to pick a 'lucky ticket' with drawings and graphical representations to help them identify EU values and institutions. 60 students participated in the activity, which used games as a teaching tool.

Who will you be voting for?

A foresight exercise was run by the junior ambassadors for 2 teachers and 28 fellow students to familiarise them with their rights and obligations as EU citizens, focusing in particular on the upcoming EP elections. The topic dealt with, and the interactive approach of this hands-on activity, recommend this exercise as good practice.



It is in your power to change things

Students, supported by the Europe Direct team, gave a forum theatre performance focusing on the theme of the European Green Deal and awareness of existing environmental problems. The volunteer actors showed what can happen in society when corruption leads to many green spaces being built on. After watching the play, the students came up with ideas to change the characters with ingenious scenarios to transform the play's ending. The activity gave them the opportunity to put themselves in the characters' shoes and become actors of change for a few minutes.

Simulation of a voting session in the European Parliament

The junior ambassadors took part in a simulation of an EP voting session. First, the students watched a video on the EP to better understand how the institution works. They were then divided into five groups, each of which was assigned a junior ambassador to help them. The groups were given a topic for debate, and eventually arrived at a legislative proposal. These proposals were then presented to the other students and junior ambassadors. Each team's proposal was then voted on.



SLOVAKIA

Ambassador schools on Instagram

Once a week, junior ambassadors from one school got a chance to run the EPAS SLOVAKIA Instagram account. This gave them the opportunity to present themselves and their school, show their EU-focused activities, and answer questions. They received useful tips from professionals on how to post, what formats to use, how to make the content most attractive, etc. The purpose was to present the new schools to their counterparts, encourage communication between schools, and give the schools a chance to get inspiration.





Transnational Sakharov Prize discussion

In December, together with EPLO Prague, an online discussion about the Sakharov Prize was organised for 300+ junior ambassadors from more than 30 schools. The students participated in a discussion about the Prize and its laureates with MEPs from Slovakia and Czechia, as well as experts on human rights in Afghanistan and Russia. They also heard the testimonial of one of the laureates - Sahraa

Karimi - who told the story of her life in Afghanistan and then as a refugee for many years. At the end, there was a quiz on the learning platform Kahoot! about human rights and the Sakharov Prize.

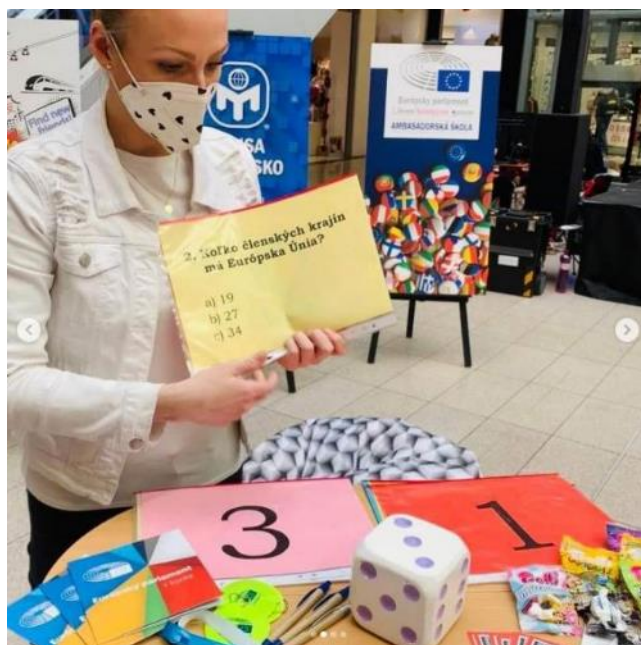


European Days Challenges

Every month, students received challenges to organise activities for upcoming 'European Days' such as Day of Languages, Holocaust Remembrance Day, Day of Compliments, and Day without mobile phones, etc. The purpose is to motivate students to learn more about specific topics and challenge their creativity in organising something for their school, community, etc.

EU quiz for the public by junior ambassadors

One school organised an EU quiz in a shopping centre in the city. Students prepared questions, EPLO Bratislava delivered promotional materials. The activity attracted a lot of shoppers, who were very intrigued and asked students many questions about the EU and about their school and the EPAS programme. It was a very good way to engage the general public but also for students to test their knowledge by answering questions and giving information



SLOVENIA

Managing the programme at the school level: the II. gimnazija Maribor school

A variety of events/activities were run that presented the EU in interactive ways and encouraged students to think about EU topics.

A round table on active citizenship at the local, national and European level was held in cooperation with Gimnazija Nova Gorica (another EPAS school). The students prepared a round table and invited representatives of various institutions to participate. The guests were Igor Zorčič, President of the National Assembly, Tanja Fajon, former MEP and current Foreign Minister of Slovenia, Saša Arsenovič, Mayor of Maribor, Klemen Miklavič, Mayor of Nova Gorica and Dr Marko Lovec, from the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Ljubljana. During the event, the Gimnazija Nova Gorica handed over the EPAS trophy to II. gimnazija Maribor, as the two schools shared the first place in the 2020/2021 school year. More than 150 students participated.



A 'go-and-vote' campaign was run for the 2022 Slovenian national parliamentary elections to educate students and members of the public about the importance of voting in both national and European elections. They invited 10 EPAS schools to participate in the campaign. Ambassadors prepared promotional materials (T-shirts, flyers, etc.). Each participating school (and their ambassadors) then promoted the campaign further and organised their activities. They also

organised workshops about the Slovenian political system and the EU in the House of the EU. A total of 10 EP Ambassador Schools and 120 students participated.

To mark Europe Day 2022, EPAS ambassadors wrote, designed and published a book about EU Member States. For this book, each ambassador had to research one EU Member State and prepare a short summary. The book, called 'A short guide to EU Member States', describes each country through its political system and history, etc.

Also to mark 2022 Europe day, mentors and ambassadors organised an 'Evropejček' competition about the EU for primary school pupils. Primary schools received EU promotional materials – three short EU publications – to prepare for the competition beforehand. Each of the primary schools had a team of three students that competed against other teams. The best three teams were awarded a trophy, and the best three individuals won a trip to Vienna. Primary students who participated also visited the House of the EU in Ljubljana. Seven different primary schools took part in the programme, totalling 21 students and 7 teachers.



Info points - online/physical

Physical Info Point

Students at Strojna šola Ptuj built a car representing the EU and its journey along the 'green road' so visitors could learn about the EU's plans for sustainable development and the transition to green energy. The green road was composed of different pictures and information about the topic and led visitors to their publications corner.

Online Info Point

Il. gimnazija Maribor created a website ([https://www.druga-](https://www.druga-solaambasadorkaep.si/)

[solaambasadorkaep.si/](https://www.druga-solaambasadorkaep.si/)) on the project and about the European Union. The site included a section about the EU (what it is, its institutions, the EU and Slovenia, etc.), interesting facts about the EU, and essays by students about the EPAS programme.

Europe day events

A number of other events were also held on Europe Day:

- Students at Gimnazija Ormož wrote a play about EU Member States. They first presented facts about the origin and history of the EU, and then characteristics of individual EU countries with the help of a skit on countries' traditional dance, music and clothes.
- The students of Gimnazija Ormož held a workshop on the EU for preschool children. The students prepared creative modules, workshops and various games suited for the age of participants. More than 30 children took part.
- GEPŠ Piran organised a treasure hunt. Students prepared an orienteering walk through a series of points in Piran, with questions related to the 27 EU members and Europe day. The correct answers to the questions led students to the treasure.

- Dijaški dom Tabor organised a photo exhibition entitled 'Europe in Ljubljana'. The opening of the exhibition was accompanied by a short cultural programme on 9 May. They briefly presented the yearlong course of the EPAS project to those present, talked about Europe Day, and they also organised a photo exhibition on various themes: social, sustainable, avant-garde and social Europe. One of the students played the EU anthem on the violin.
- Students at the Srednja ekonomska šola in gimnazija Maribor organised nine stands in the school, each presenting a different topic such as the EPAS programme, opportunities for youth, EU quizzes, etc. They also hosted a discussion with Slovenian MEP Milan Brglez (S&D), who also visited the stands.
- Gimnazija Bežigrad organised a discussion with Slovenian MEP Irena Joveva (Renew) about her parliamentary work, young people and the pressing issues they are facing. More than 90 students participated in the talk.

Other interesting activities

During the school year, the Ekonomska šola Ljubljana school hosted five Slovenian MEPs (Dr Milan Brglez (S&D), Tanja Fajon (S&D), Dr Klemen Grošelj (Renew), Ljudmila Novak (EPP) and Romana Tomc (EPP)), with whom they discussed their Parliamentary work, career paths, opportunities in the EU, the functioning of the EU and various other European topics. All but one of the events were hosted live.

Škofijska gimnazija Vipava organised a meeting and discussion with Slovenian MEP Ljudmila Novak (EPP).

She presented the functioning of the European Parliament, her work as an MEP and answered various questions from students.

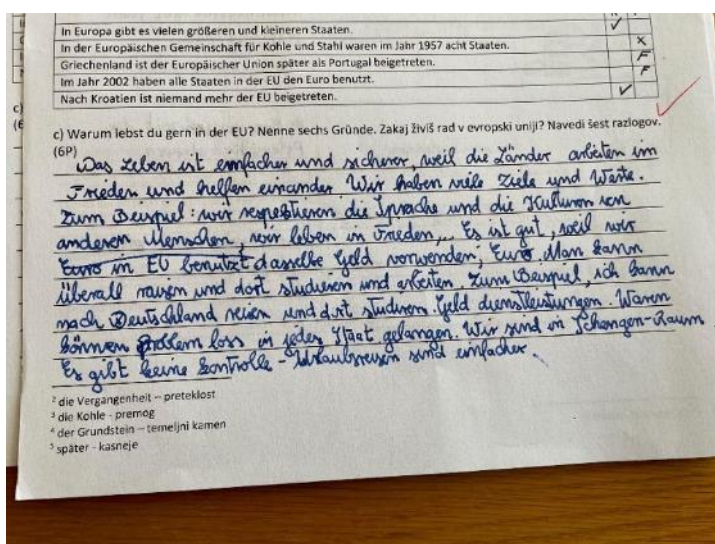
Srednja šola Domžale included the EU in various school subjects. For example, a mathematics teacher included the EU in her class by first presenting the EU Member States and then including the architectural landmarks of EU Member States in calculation tasks (geometric regularities), etc.

A German teacher at Gimnazija Kranj included various European topics in the regular schoolwork, such as asking students to write an essay on the subject of 'What it means to be a young EU citizen'.

GEPŠ Piran organised an EU project day for third-year high school students. Students first took part in a workshop about the EU run by staff of the Europa Experience multimedia centre. Then they divided into groups and started preparing a newsletter about the EU that included articles on various topics. At the end of the day, they participated in another workshop about active citizenship. During the day, the students also used EPAS teaching modules. With the help of EPAS ambassadors the vocational students ran the project day and held a presentation about the EU and EPAS for their peers.

EPAS organisational good practices

On 4 November 2021, an online meeting was organised for students. In total, more than 280 students attended the meeting. The main goal was to bring the EPAS programme and the EPAS



team closer to students. This created a more personal and approachable atmosphere, especially during the pandemic. The meeting also gave an overview of the programme and activities.

On 21 June 2022, a final event for students and mentors was organised. The event took place from 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. in the Festival hall of Pionirski dom, which is located near the House of the EU. It was hosted by Sašo Stare (stand-up comedian and TV host) and Mojca Mavec (TV host), both well known among Slovenian youth.

The opening act of the event was dedicated to welcoming the students and mentors and showing them our appreciation for their hard work during the activities of the programme. Mojca and Sašo opened the event with short and entertaining insights into why it is important to learn about the EU, to be active citizens, and how the EU influences our daily life. Andrej Miholič, coordinator of the programme in EPLO Ljubljana, also greeted the participants and again thanked them for their dedication to learning about the EU and for their active participation in the programme. During the speech, he also presented the together.eu initiative and invited students to join the community on the spot with their mobile phones. The opening of the event was wrapped up with a pre-recorded video speech by EP President Roberta Metsola, which was filmed during her visit to Ljubljana and was made especially for Slovenian ambassadors. In her speech, she thanked them for their work in promoting the EU and the European Parliament and stressed the importance of such programmes.



The award ceremony was divided into three parts. In between activities included a round table about active citizenship and different opportunities the EU offers to young people; a concert by the popular band 'Last Pizza Slice', who represented Slovenia at the Eurovision song contest; and a short stand-up show before the announcement of the winners. The first three places based on the total sum of points awarded for schools' activities during the year and winners for best activities were divided into four categories: info point, Europe day event, other EU/EP event and social media. Students also had the opportunity to visit the Europa Experience multimedia centre.

Allocation of prizes - This year, participation at Euroscola events was proposed to the best performing schools in overall EPAS activities in the 2021/2022 school year. Schools that received the highest final cumulative number of points and schools that prepared the best activities in the following categories of info point, Europe day event, social media, and other EU activity, were eligible to attend the simulation in the 2022/2023 school year. It is also the case for schools that follow them on the list of best performing schools (depending on the number of all Euroscola simulations in 2022/2023). The three highest ranking schools and those that won in individual categories all received a special EPAS glass medal. The highest ranking school was declared 'The best EPAS school of the year' and received a national EPAS trophy.

SPAIN

National Meeting of European Parliament Ambassador Schools in Orihuela (Alicante)

Colegio Oratorio Festivo de San Miguel held an EPAS meeting on 5, 6 and 7 April. It was attended by junior ambassadors from Malaga, Valencia, Murcia, Granada, Ciudad Real, Barcelona and Gran Canaria. MEPs, senators, deputies, councillors and administration technicians took part in the meeting. An exhibition of European Info Points was also carried out by each of the 22 schools that took part in the event.

The morning session of 5 April, which was attended by more than 500 ambassadors, concluded with a roundtable by experts in education, followed by a debate on the digital divide with the IES Benalmádena (Málaga) and IES Cairasco de Figueroa (Gran Canaria) secondary schools. In the afternoon, 230 young people attended a lecture on health issues, with Ms Teresa Maria Belmonte Sánchez, member of the Alicante provincial government with responsibility for aid and voluntary work, in the auditorium of the Lonja (Orihuela). Then, students of CD Oratorio Festivo de San Miguel (Orihuela) and IES Sanje (Murcia) discussed the issue of unvaccinated people travelling between the Member States.



International Meeting of EPAS and MEPAS 'Villa de Ejea'

The celebration of 9 May took place with a weekend of work and coexistence organised by the IES Reyes Católicos to which all the EPAS and MEPAS in the Aragón region were invited, as well as one from La Rioja, another from Navarra and those from Ejea's twin cities, Marmande (France) and Portogruaro (Italy). The three days were full of activities and were attended by 76 junior ambassadors, 25 senior ambassadors, authorities from the three participating countries, the

General Director of Planning and Equity in the Government of Aragon, Ana Montagud, and the MEP Isabel García (S&D), journalist Griselda Pastor, Team Europe and Teresa Coutinho from EPLO Madrid. In addition to the institutional events and holding talks, discussions, working groups and presentations of the activities carried out in all the centres, the participants were able to take part in an escape room on the Sustainable Development Goals, take a guided tour of the town, savour the typical cuisine of the area and enjoy a sample of local music.



We debate Europe brings together schools from Extremadura and Portugal in Alcántara

On 22 April 2022, the European Debate Day was held at San Benito de Alcántara. These conferences called 'We Debate Europe' were organised by the senior ambassador José Manuel Galán from the IESO Cella Vinaria Mentor secondary school in Ceclavín. In these conferences, 13 Extremaduran Ambassador Schools and one from Portugal participated in

debates on the new European Union, a subject that will be added to Extremadura's curriculum next year, and on the challenges for the future of the EU, for which proactive methodologies were used.



Common message of EPAS and MEPAS in Spain for the 9 May

The initiative of the senior ambassador Ángel Franco of the Fundación Llor Mentor School, posted on the national platform, consisted of making a collage with each of the letters of '9 May, Europe Day...'

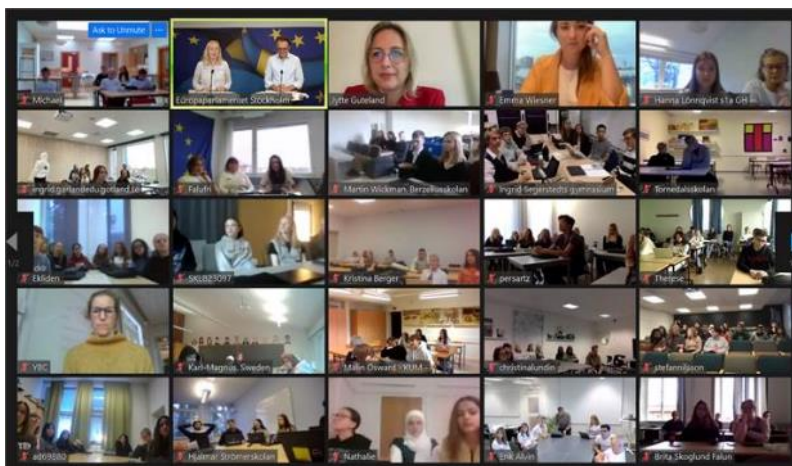
Along with the rest of the EPAS throughout Spain, each school has made a letter using their artistic skills and together they have built a collaborative message from which they made a common poster for 9 May.

SWEDEN

EPAS junior ambassador training webinar

The goal was to gather, meet and educate the junior ambassador network in Sweden on the EP and European democracy and inform them about the 2024 European elections. 400 students from 40 schools across Sweden took part in a Q&A session with MEPs and attended a workshop. The event was co-hosted with the

together.eu network at the European Parliament Liaison Office (EPLO). Communicating with the students in the junior ambassador network is important as many will be first time voters in the 2024 European elections. This is also an opportunity to encourage students to join the together.eu network when they graduate from school.



Digital EU school tour to EP Ambassador Schools with MEPs and the Swedish Minister for EU Affairs Mr Hans Dahlgren

In order to facilitate a dialogue with young people and leading politicians on the EU level the EPLO initiated a digital EU school tour. The students prepared 10 questions in advance to ask the MEPs and the minister for EU affairs. The event was broadcast live on the EPLO YouTube channel. Many schools have made it obligatory to attend, hence reaching a large audience. The local and regional press have often covered the event, resulting in press coverage and additional

visibility for the school, the EPAS programme and the EP.

European Parliament Ambassador School: 2021/2022 report



ANNEX II: ACHIEVEMENTS OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LIAISON OFFICES IN THE 2021/2022 SCHOOL YEAR

The table below compiles a selection of achievements mentioned by the EPLOs that have not been included in the activities of the 2021/2022 school year.

Country	Highlighted achievements
Austria	The students showed a remarkably high level of interest and willingness to take part in the project.
Belgium	There was a meeting with all Europe Direct Belgium centres to explain the EPAS promote to them so they could promote it.
Bulgaria	Senior ambassadors were offered a variety of online webinar formats for participation.
Croatia	The biggest achievement was to keep the platform alive and strong, despite the challenges. A major EPAS transnational event was also hosted in Zagreb.
Cyprus	All 20 schools did extraordinary work with the implementation of EPAS activities and they ran many additional activities. Senior and junior ambassadors used their creativity and imagination to complete the actions in the most effective way possible. Most importantly, schools cooperated with each other for actions such as Europe Day and junior ambassadors had the opportunity to meet people they would not otherwise meet and built relationships of solidarity and mutual respect with many students from other schools in Cyprus.
Czechia	Even though the number of schools that completed the EPAS programme was lower than last year (10 compared to 14), the number of total participants in this year's programme increased from 2 000 to 2 200.
Denmark	This school year was the first in which most MEPs took part in cooperating with the EPAS schools. We had several debates and online sessions with MEPs.
Estonia	There was an effective response as a community to the crisis caused by the pandemic and the conflict in Ukraine. Schools contributed by sharing information as well as bringing young people together to talk about issues in a safe and supportive environment. There was the organisation of a seminar outside the capital, school visits and online meetings with representatives of participating schools.

Finland	Despite the aftermath of the pandemic, a notable number of old and new EPAS schools were able to participate and complete their plans.
France	There were various activities around Europe: quizzes, puzzles, escape games, role-play games, photo exhibitions, arts such as mural painting, music and theatre.
Germany	Online events such as workshops and discussions with MEPs were continued and established as a permanent feature. This is a good complement for the communication with schools and the activities of the ambassador programme.
Greece	The number of participants in EPAS activities has increased significantly. Furthermore, more vocational schools participated in the programme and for the first time a Special Gymnasium school participated successfully. The participating schools covered almost all 13 regions of Greece. Schools from small islands on the borders of Greece also participated successfully in the programme.
Hungary	After COVID-19, students are becoming more active and more events are taking place.
Ireland	One of the junior ambassadors said: 'I think my greatest learning experience was how accessible European politics can be for young people. Being part of the EPAS programme enabled me to feel connected to Europe and other young Europeans. It has been a great year and a great experience.'
Italy	There was a partnership with Fondazione Megalizzi (offering schools additional classes on fake news) and the National Agency for new technologies, energy and sustainable economic development (ENEA) offering in-depth analysis on the environment as well as joint lectures in schools from the same regions' Joint Europe Day celebrations coordinated by Europe
Latvia	The well-designed EPAS programme and the schools' excellent performance meant there was a long list of achievements in the 2021/2022 school year. We hosted three online regional seminars with MEPs for senior and junior ambassadors to facilitate regional networking and raise awareness about current debates in Europe. The EPAS team encouraged ambassadors to engage with refugees from Ukraine to take part in the EPAS activities and organised several activities specifically for Ukrainian pupils.

Lithuania	Many senior ambassadors reported becoming increasingly comfortable using the EPAS teaching materials, integrating them in various ways and using them at events. More schools involved partners in their events and particularly appreciated collaboration with Europe Direct Centres. Some schools successfully engaged with media partners, thus promoting EPAS on local media. The EPAS blog also enabled more timely communication.
Luxembourg	Larger EPAS events were organised by individual schools, some devoting a whole week to the EU, others prepared larger events to welcome refugees, and, in general, schools became more enthusiastic about sharing best practices.
Malta	The quizzes at schools were once again received with great enthusiasm by students and teachers. Participation was lively and a healthy competitive spirit ensued both during the individual sessions held at the schools as well as the final quiz session held on Europe Day in Valletta.
Netherlands	Two offline junior days were organised on the topic of sustainability and a sustainability competition was launched.
Poland	A short collection of European lesson scenarios for teachers of persons with mental disabilities was developed based on existing educational materials.
Portugal	Young people looked into the construction of Europe and reflected on Europe's future.
Romania	There was a tendency for more relationships with other schools and the local community, students became more proactive, student-teacher-parent relations improved, good practices were exchanged with other EPAS schools, including outside the country, and the possibility of organising offline activities was developed.
Slovakia	Online activities broadened the scope and helped reach more people without stretching the budget.
Slovenia	We managed to include 11 new schools in the programme in the 2021/2022 school year, and exceed the initial goal of 5 new schools. All together 75 schools applied, which is the largest number since the project started.
Spain	In this year of 'getting back to normality', the project kept a high profile with many in-person activities involving EPAS coming from different regions. As the online activities have been fostered, the combination with regular activities made it possible to reach even more MEPs than in previous years. In media terms, the EPAS programme has achieved national coverage by organising prominent activities.

Sweden	For the first time we introduced digital training events for the junior ambassadors network in Sweden. On both occasions we had around 50 schools taking part with around 300 - 400 students online.
United Kingdom	The first UK EPAS joint event took place and the first EPAS school went on a trip to the EU and met with other EPAS schools in Estonia and Finland.