



15/05/2024 - Issue n. 86

Corporate content on communication for outreach networks

European Commission, Directorate General for Communication, unit C.4

To keep you in the big picture

Raising awareness on disinformation

Share this with your fellow citizens: the Commission launched a set of actions to **raise awareness of the risks of disinformation** and foreign information manipulation and interference, in the run-up to the European elections. Together with the European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services, it kicked off a [joint communication campaign](#) to inform citizens about the related risks, encouraging critical thinking and providing practical tips on how to spot and tackle disinformation. The [video](#) of the campaign will be running across the Member States, available in all 24 official EU languages, until the beginning of June. The Commission also published a new [toolkit](#) with hands-on guidance for teachers and educators, including practical suggestions to help them explain disinformation and information manipulation to students and young people and empower them to recognise and tackle it. The translation of the documents is currently in progress and will soon be available in all EU languages. Please have a look and share across the board!

Protecting media independence and pluralism

It is no secret that protection of media freedom and journalists' well-being lies at the heart of the EU's values. To ensure journalists can work freely and safely, the Commission agreed on a new set of unprecedented rules to protect media independence and pluralism: **the European Media Freedom Act** (available [here](#)). This new legislation provides safeguards against political interference in editorial decisions and against surveillance of journalists. The Act guarantees that media can operate more easily in the internal market and online. Additionally, the regulation also aims to secure the independence and stable funding of public service media, as well as the transparency of both media ownership and allocation of state advertising. More information on the Commission's action to uphold media freedom, pluralism and the safety of journalists is also available [online](#) and on this [infographic](#).

64% of young people intend to vote during the European elections

Share the news: ahead of the European elections, the Commission has published a [Eurobarometer on Youth and Democracy](#), revealing early indications of **64% of young people** saying they **intend to vote**. The survey showed that many young people are active and engaged: 64% said that they have participated in the activities participated of one or more organisations in the past 12 months. Concerning Europe, more than 43% have participated in

an activity in another EU country. Typical examples of this includes studying or training (16%), volunteering (12%) or working (12%). Nearly half of the surveyed young people (49%) say that they are aware of the funding opportunities offered by Erasmus+, the EU programme for education, training, youth, and sport. The [Flash Eurobarometer survey 545 'Youth and Democracy'](#) was carried out between 3 April and 12 April 2024.

New call for proposals under the European Urban Initiative

Read more here: to further reinforce and strengthen sustainable urban development in EU cities, the Commission launched a third call for proposals worth **€90 million under the European Urban Initiative** (EUI). Projects selected under this call will test innovative solutions in cities to help them to deliver on the green and digital transitions. The [European Regional Development Fund](#) will co-finance 80% of project costs, with each project receiving up to €5 million. Part of this funding will support the transfer of knowledge and adaptation of these tested solutions to other EU cities to ensure that local projects have a wider societal and economic impact in Europe. The remaining 20% will be covered by local authorities and project partners. Interested representatives from EU cities are invited to consult the [EUI webpage](#) for details on the application process. The deadline to submit proposals is 14 October 2024.

End of the European Year of Skills

Have you heard? This week marks the end of the [European Year of Skills](#), which aimed to help people **acquire the skills they need for quality jobs** and to help businesses tackle skills shortages in the EU. Throughout the year, the EU led 190 skills initiatives and hosted more than 2 000 events and activities across Europe, mobilising millions of people and putting skills at the centre of competences at local, regional and European level. The European Year of Skills provided a platform for dialogue, collaboration and action between national and EU institutions, social partners, education and training providers, learners, public employment services and businesses. Flagship events such as '[Making Skills Count](#)', '[Meet the Champions of Excellence](#)', '[European Vocational Skills Week](#)' have highlighted the importance of key competences applicable across different sectors and underlined the need for continued cooperation with all stakeholders

Might wish to share among your networks

Capture your climate action!

Are you passionate about climate action and making a positive impact on our planet? The [European Climate Pact](#) has recently launched a photo competition aiming to showcase climate action taking place all around you, in homes, communities and cities. It will run until **Friday 28 June 2024, 12:00 CEST**. By recognising the efforts being made to fight climate change in our neighbourhoods, the European Climate Pact hopes to raise awareness and inspire change. The competition is open to everyone: when it comes to climate action, anyone can show what is happening in their world. Find more information about the competition [here!](#)