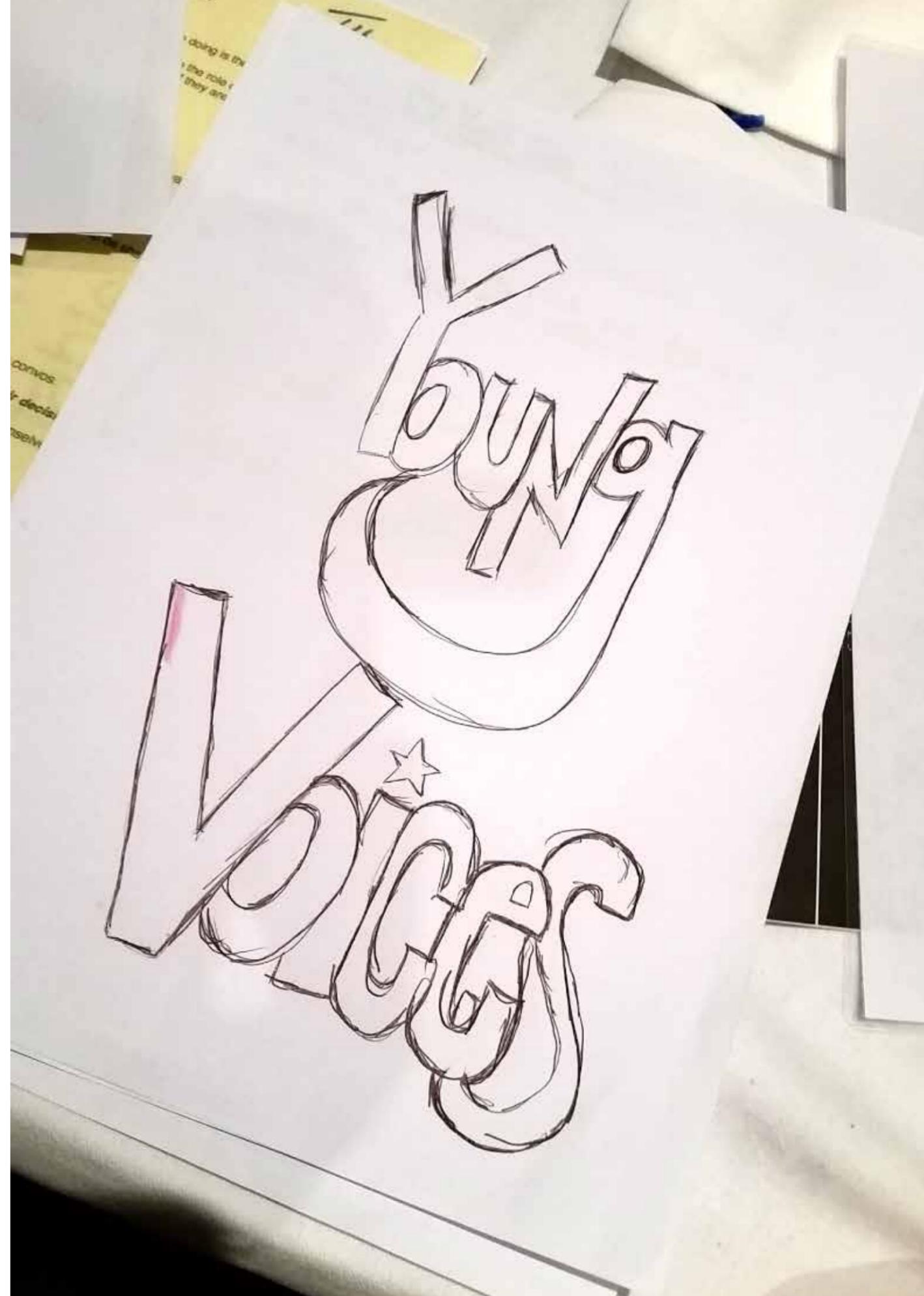




IDEAS TO ACTION!

**YOUNG PEOPLE
SHAPING A DIVERSE,
INCLUSIVE AND
CONNECTED EUROPE**



Education needs
to teach practical
life skills

if happens
schools
'ficially
'd

Graphic
Report

February 23rd 2017 in the Gresham Hotel Dublin



INTRODUCTION



WELCOME!



Dermot O'Brien, Young Voices Coordinator

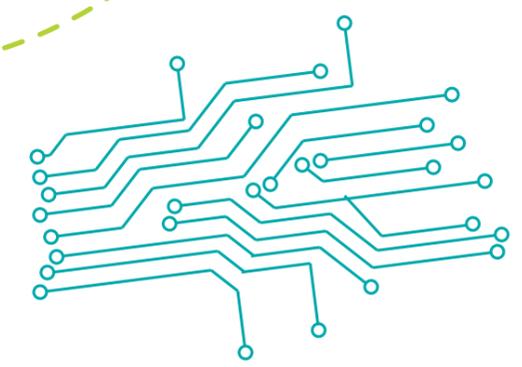
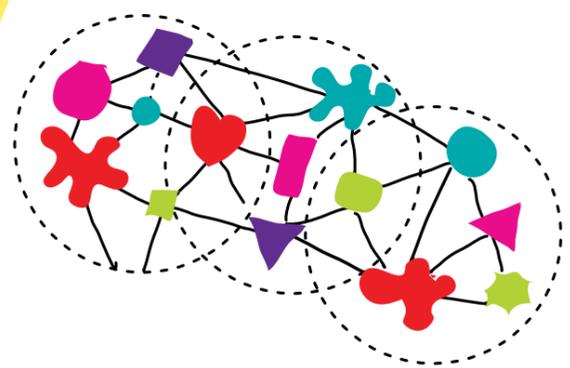


There are young people here from all over Ireland- let's connect with each other, listen and share.

131
young people

from
16
different parts of
the country

+11
experts

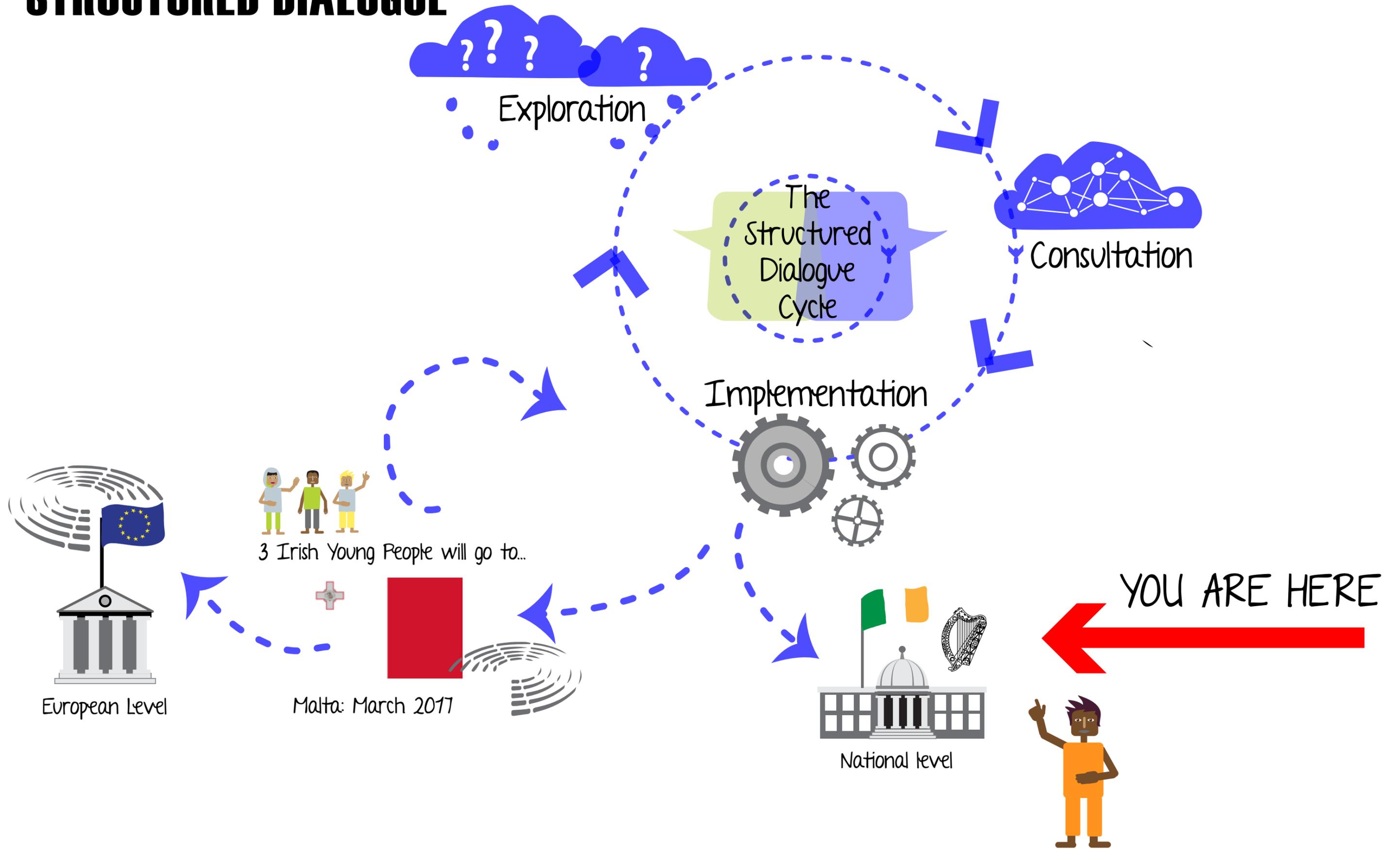


THE PROCESS OF OUR DAY

#Malta @evYOUTHconf2017

- ★ Introducing Young Voices
- ★ Telling the Story
- ★ Reconnecting to the Topics
- ★ Discussing the Recommendations
- ★ Choosing a smaller number of Recommendations to Prioritise
- ★ Next Steps!

STRUCTURED DIALOGUE



TELLING THE STORY



Structured Dialogue is a tool to ensure the opinions of young people are taken into account and influence policy that affects us.

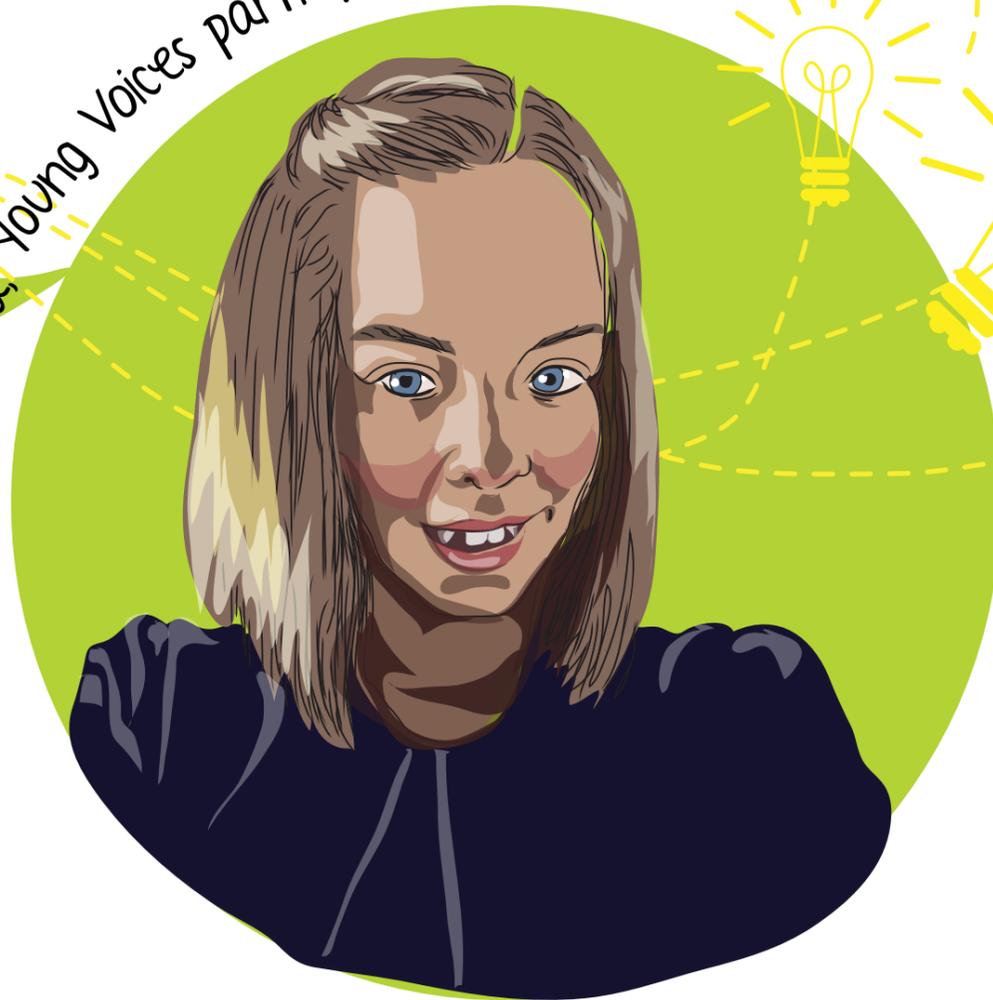
The beautiful thing about Young Voices is that we have new people coming in all the time. We have young people of all ages and backgrounds.



John, Young Voices Participant

I have been involved with Young Voices since 2013- the amazing thing is we actually get to implement our ideas. We have a good relationship with the Dept of Children and Youth Affairs and the Dept of Education.

Vanessa, Young Voices participant.



You get to have YOUR VOICE HEARD.

I'm in the NIP- that's the National Implementation Team.

You always hear people say "Young People are the FUTURE" ...

...but we are also the NOW!

Let's work now to make all our futures brighter.



YOU are here today to make a change.

THE RIGHTS WE HAVE TO PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY WERE FOUGHT FOR BY PEOPLE IN THE PAST- WE MUST USE THEM!

Young people KNOW what they want- ask them!

Your Voice is IMPORTANT!



Nengi, Young Voices Participant

64% of young people in the UK aged 18- 24 did not vote in the Brexit referendum. Why NOT? And would the result have been different if they had?



RECONNECTING TO THE TOPICS

How do we build trust?

How do we use non-formal learning methods in formal education settings?

How do we improve mental health in schools by embracing the different cultures and backgrounds?

Can you talk to us earlier in life about our options after the Leaving Cert?

Can a Youth Service be successful without sufficient funding?

How can we teach practical life skills in schools?

How do you measure learning that happens outside school?

Is it all about funding or are there other ways of supporting youth work?

Can we have a student card that can be used on all public transport?

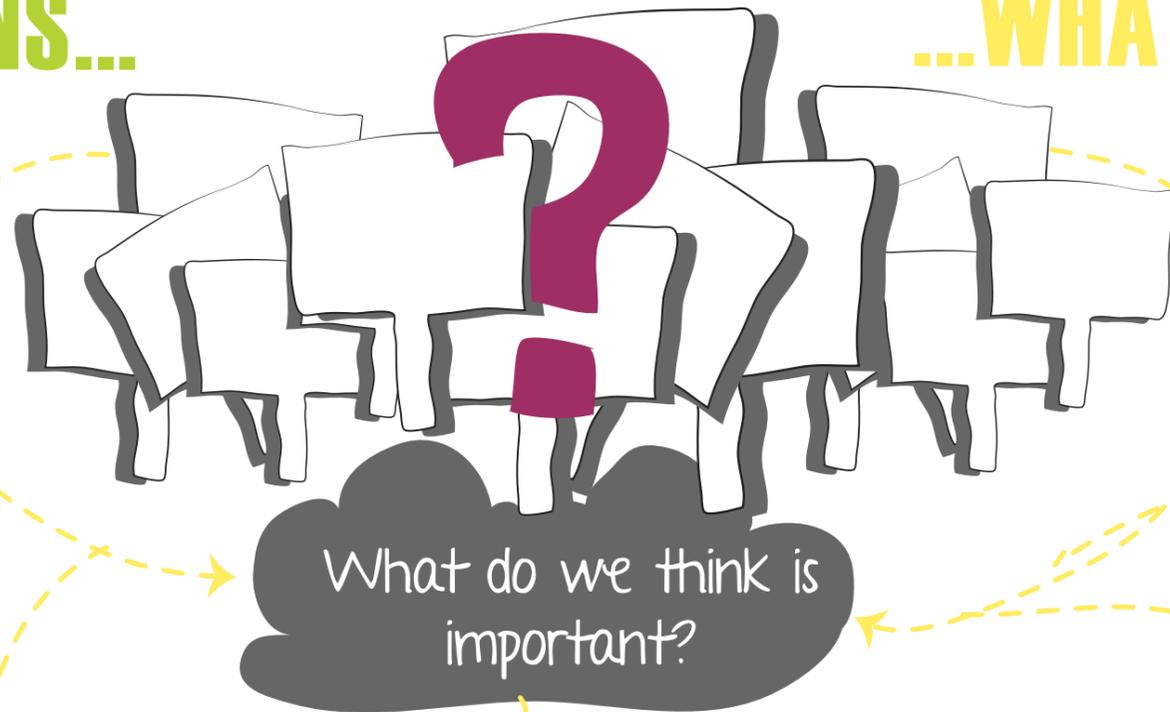
Questions we have...

Who is going to fund a European Youth Festival?



16 RECOMMENDATIONS...

...WHAT SHOULD WE PRIORITISE?



There is still a taboo about mental health, especially in some cultural backgrounds. Teachers don't have training for this. There is no platform for young people to come forward and ask for help.

Volunteering
If you volunteer you feel like you belong- you feel empowered. The image of volunteering is old-fashioned. There are benefits to our wellbeing.

More critical thinking- through SPHE and in Youth Clubs.

Teach people to QUESTION



We can't make informed decisions if we don't understand.

Research shows that non-formal approaches to education benefit students.

Non-teaching seems to be the best option for guidance.

Teaching practical life skills
"I'm 19. I left school at 16 and I've learned everything in the last 2 years."

"Mam! Who should I Vote for??!"

Identity and Belonging
If we have to be put in a "box" we should choose our own box!

We shouldn't take it for granted that we are protected against racism.

Some young people in Ireland do not have the same privileges of free travel that we do. That is not equal rights. Travel gives you confidence and then you can participate.

Instead of challenging the "system" let's just get together.

Youth Work
Being in the Youth Club makes me more confident. It is a safe place to hang out and somewhere I can discuss things. Everyone can be who they want to be.

We need to meet the needs of young people, to understand their language so we can progress.

"I want to be a youth worker myself now!"

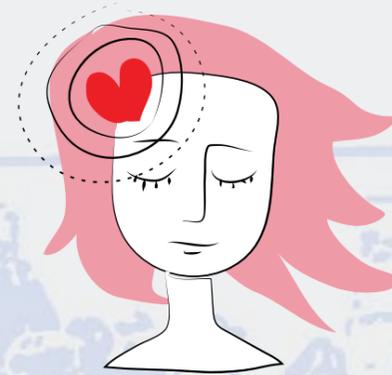
"I only found out about this issue today and I'm already really passionate about it."



WHAT DID WE PRIORITISE?

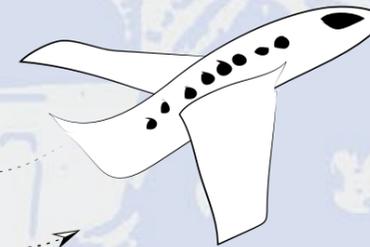
RECOMMENDATION 3

There should be space in education to help young people build resilience, self awareness and confidence.



RECOMMENDATION 13

More support and make it easier for young people to travel.



RECOMMENDATION 12

EU Youth Festivals that combine social, political and cultural activities would help young people connect with Europe.



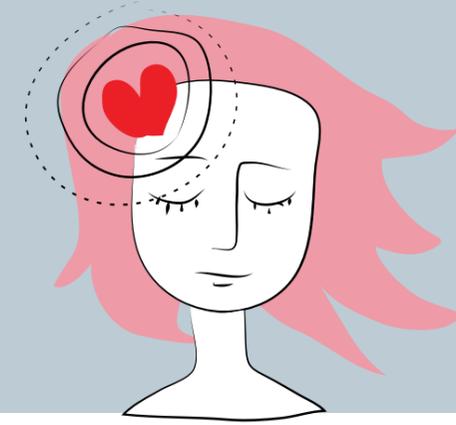
RECOMMENDATION 16

To be at its best Youth Work needs sufficient funding



RECOMMENDATION 3

THERE SHOULD BE SPACE IN EDUCATION TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE BUILD RESILIENCE, SELF AWARENESS AND CONFIDENCE.



Who do we want to INVOLVE?

NYMHT- and ambassadors like Bressie
Ministers Simon Harris, Katharine
Zappone, Richard Bruton.
Enda Kenny
Leo Varadkar
Youth representatives
Mental Health specialists

Thomas Moore (Comedian, YouTuber)
Guidance Counsellors
HSE
Saccone Jolys (specifically Anna.)
YouTubers, social influencers
Youth Charities, NGOs
Eoghan McDermott

Why?

Mental health
is as important as
physical health

1 in 3 people have some kind of
mental health difficulty

Mindfulness and wellbeing should be more
encouraged

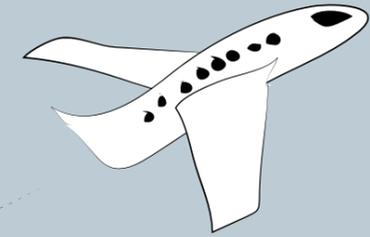
The Secondary School years are the most strenuous in
terms of your physical, emotional and mental health
With proper education we can break the taboo
surrounding mental health.

What Is On Our Agenda:

1. Youth engagement
2. Mental health check-ups in schools to make sure everyone knows where the supports are
3. Male and Female counsellors
4. Mental Health workshops to get rid of taboo and stigma
5. Focusing on a form of identity which promotes practical inclusion
6. Obligatory mental health training for teachers

RECOMMENDATION 13

MORE SUPPORT AND MAKE IT EASIER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO TRAVEL



Who do we want to INVOLVE?

Minister for Transport
Minister for Children
Minister for Communications
CIE Board
Minister for Justice
MEPs
An outsider who is not in public transport to see we are not being biased
Childrens Rights Alliance
Leader like YPP and EYMF
Chair of Better Outcomes Brighter Futures Advisory Council
Student Union representatives from schools
NYCI to represent young people
Léargas

Why?

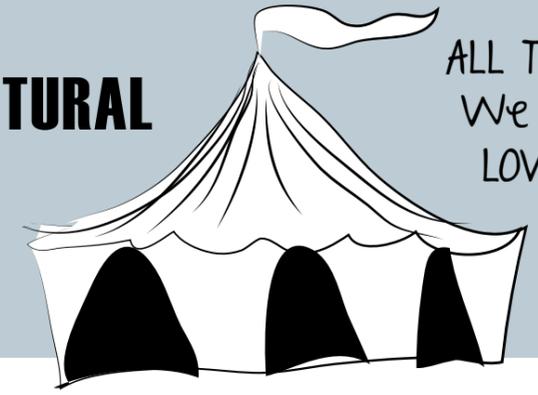
Break down borders.
Spread the love of travel.
Create travel documents that allow us to travel, educate ourselves and take opportunities that we are passionate about, like sports, student exchanges or Erasmus+
Travelling should be a choice- not a right
Young people are missing out on opportunities

What Is On Our Agenda:

1. Barriers- costs, visas, lack of awareness
2. Policy changes
3. Young people WANT to travel
4. Needs promotion at home and school
5. Benefits of travel- including creating a diverse, connected and inclusive Europe. especially by including migrant and refugee people.
6. Aiding young people without documentation to get papers

RECOMMENDATION 12

EU YOUTH FESTIVALS THAT COMBINE SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES WOULD HELP YOUNG PEOPLE CONNECT WITH EUROPE.



ALL TOGETHER
We are ONE.
LOVE FIRST.

Who do we want
to INVOLVE?

Event organisers
Well-known personalities
All welcome
Dept of children and youth affairs
Politicians
News journalists
European Youth Forum
Leargas
Representatives of NGOs
Young Voices representatives

Why?

To
connect with other
cultures
Meet new people
Raise awareness- in a not-boring way
Covers all topics in a fun way
Stops conflict
Creates understanding- peace and love!
Opens young peoples' minds

#youngvoicestakeaction

"In order for Ireland to host an EU Youth Festival we must motivate our politicians to take up a cross-party challenge"

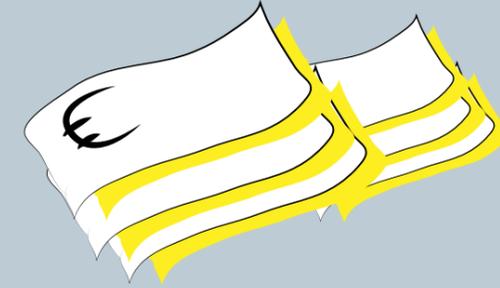
What Is On
Our Agenda:

1. Where would the money come from
2. Location- what country?
3. Issues affecting the country
4. Planning, advertising
5. Organisations in different countries
6. Stakeholders and supporters?

EQUALITY!

RECOMMENDATION 16

TO BE AT ITS BEST YOUTH WORK NEEDS SUFFICIENT FUNDING



Who do we want to INVOLVE?

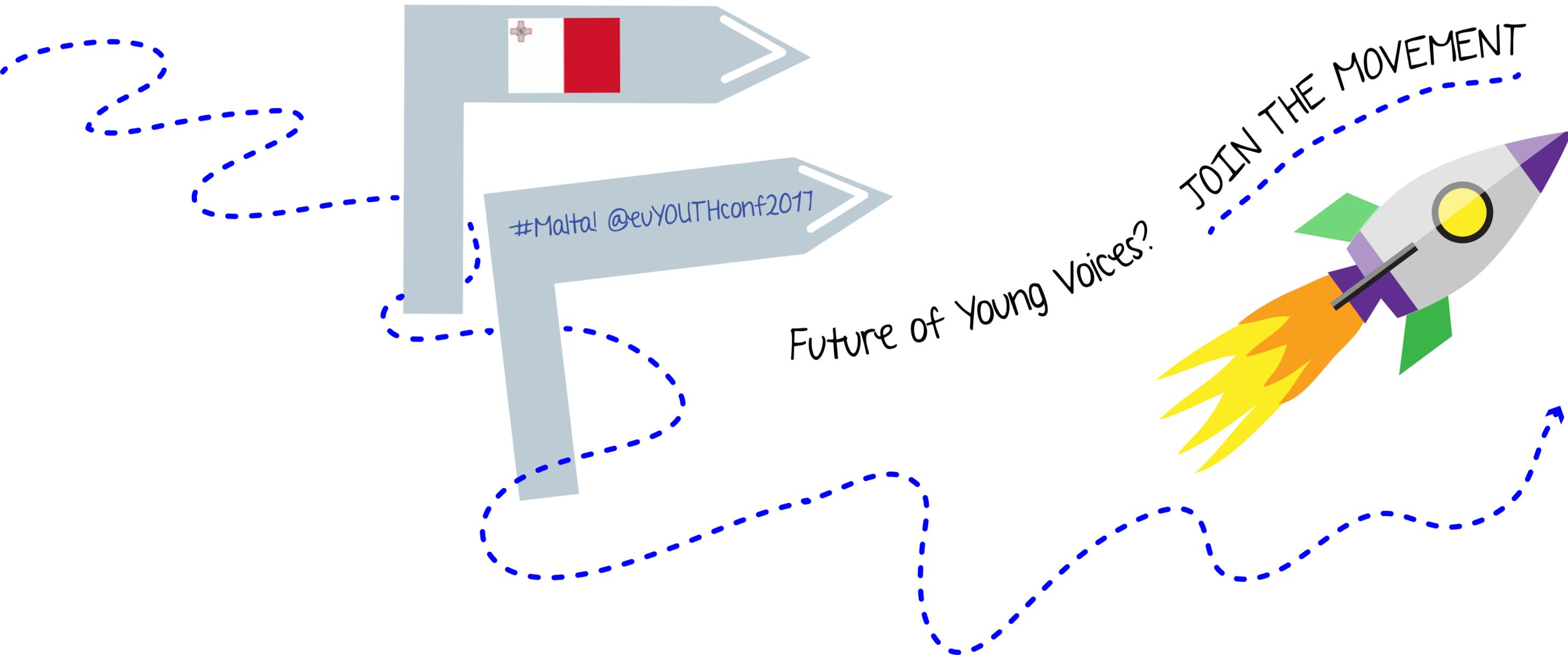
Different youth workers
Minister for Children and Youth Affairs
Young people from different youth services around the country
Representation from different national agencies
TDs/ Councillors- local politicians
Young people from all backgrounds
Representatives of funding agencies
Representation from boards of management of youth services
Representation from Youth Work courses
Representation from agencies that work with young people, e.g. Mental Health

Why?

Young people need a safe and inclusive space
Provide non-formal learning/ peer education
Empowering
Place to find your identity
Make friends- develop interpersonal skills
Explore the power balance between young people and youth workers
Gives young people guidance and support
Gives young people a VOICE

What Is On Our Agenda:

1. Youth engagement and empowerment
2. Inclusion and diversity in a safe space
3. Explain WHAT youth work IS
4. Power balance between young people and youth workers building working relationships
5. Awareness about youth development and progression



[HTTP://WWW.YOUTH.IE/YOUNGVOICES](http://www.youth.ie/youngvoices)



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

This is part of the European Structured Dialogue
process which gives young people an opportunity
to influence decisions affecting their lives.