

EP4U – European Policies for You

Project Factsheet

❖ Project description

The EP4U project will run for a period of 1,5 years, from January 2021 to June 2022. TEPSA is the sole beneficiary of the grant and will coordinate and implement all project activities.

The general objective of EP4U is to raise citizens' awareness of EU policy-making and engage university and high school students, and the broader public, in discussions about the work of the EU and the EP in four policy areas: **climate and environment; employment and social policies; migration and asylum; and non-discrimination and protection of fundamental rights**. These four policy areas will be analysed in four different Member States: **Finland, France, Bulgaria and Slovakia**.

- In Finland, TEPSA will engage with young citizens in an informed debate on what the EU is doing to mitigate climate change and protect the environment.
- In France, TEPSA will engage and debate with young French citizens about the role the EU plays in promoting social policies and how it aims to foster employment and protect jobs in response to the COVID-19 crisis.
- In Bulgaria, TEPSA aims at acquainting and engaging young people with the importance of the EU and the EP in migration and asylum policies. In particular, EP4U will provide an opportunity to explain and discuss the New Pact on Migration and Asylum proposed by the Commission in September 2020.
- In Slovakia, TEPSA will debate with young people non-discrimination policies at the EU level and protection of fundamental rights.

TEPSA will implement its activities in cooperation with four implementing partners from member institutes of TEPSA. In Finland TEPSA will partner with Dr. Emma Hakala, from the Finnish Institute of International Affairs; in France with Prof. Dr. Tom Chevalier, from Sciences Po Paris; in Bulgaria with Prof. Dr. Evelina Staykova-Mileva, from the New Bulgarian University; and in Slovakia with Michaela Dénešová, from Comenius University.



❖ Project Activities

1. University debates: TEPSA will organise a total of 4 university debates in the four selected Member States, each of them tackling a different policy area. The aim of university debates is not only that students get acquainted with EU values and the work of the EP in a certain policy area, but also that students get engaged in the democratic process of the EU and are able to participate and contribute to the discussion and future policy-making of the Union. University debates will take place between September and December 2021.
2. Video interviews: TEPSA will develop 4 video interviews with MEPs and implementing partners about the work of the EU in the four selected policy areas and stimulate an informed debate on the latter. Each video will elaborate on the topics discussed at each respective debate using engaging visuals and a dynamic interview format. Video interviews will be released between October and December 2021.
3. Short video fact-files: TEPSA will produce 7 short video fact-files on the 7 Member States that had a turnout of less than 35% in the 2019 EP elections. Videos will feature the views of MEPs from the selected Member States. MEPs will explain how the EU is contributing to the development of their country and youth opportunities. Video fact-files will be published between June 2021 and June 2022.
4. Student paper competitions: TEPSA will launch 4 student paper competitions calling for student policy recommendations for the EU and the EP in the four selected policy areas. The four student winners will have the opportunity to present their policy recommendations to researchers and MEPs during the final conference. Calls will be launched in September 2021 and papers will be released in January 2022.
5. High school talks: in cooperation with university students and the four implementing partners, TEPSA will organise 4 lectures in high schools of the selected Member States. Students will get acquainted with the work of the EU and the EP and act as knowledge-multipliers within their families and friends' circle. High school talks will run from January to March 2022.
6. Final conference: TEPSA will organise an online final conference in May/June 2022. This event will discuss the four policy areas touched upon during the project cycle in an engaging manner, with researchers, MEPs and civil society organisations. The main audience of the event will be university and high-school students that have been engaged during the project, while also remaining accessible to a broader audience.
7. Social media "EU Fact of the Week": with the aim to raise public awareness about the role of the EU, TEPSA will publish on social media a weekly "EU Fact of the Week", elaborating on the history and role of the European Union as well as the impact the citizens can have in this process.

