



# YOUTH PARTICIPATION EVENTS



**PROJECT NUMBER: 2022-3-PL01-KA154-YOU-000103356**

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Welcome to the latest edition of the Youth PeaceBuilders Initiative Newsletter! This issue highlights three impactful Youth Participation Events that have recently taken place across Europe. These events provided young people with platforms to engage in meaningful dialogue, influence policy, and develop their skills as future leaders and peacebuilders.

## **Warsaw, Poland: Youth Debate for Peace**

**Date: May 20 - May 22, 2024**

**Location: Warsaw, Poland**

**Participants: 20 Young Leaders**

Our Youth Debate for Peace, held in Warsaw, was a pivotal event aimed at fostering a deeper culture of dialogue among Europe's youth. This event brought together 20 young participants to explore how they can become active social agents and influence EU political and social leadership. Key focus areas were:

- The debate centered on strategies for increasing youth involvement in EU peace-making actions and public agendas. Participants discussed how young people can effectively engage with and impact decision-making processes.



- Discussions explored methods for amplifying youth voices from local to European and transnational levels, promoting peace and solidarity. The goal was to identify ways to ensure that young people's perspectives are heard and valued.
- The debate addressed the need for centralized and unified policies that align with the goals of peacekeeping and address the needs of young people across Europe.
- Participants examined how youth networks can collaborate and share knowledge to enhance their influence in the decision-making process, ensuring a more cohesive and informed approach to advocacy.

The Youth Debate for Peace served as a platform for young leaders to voice their opinions and develop strategies for active participation in EU policy-making processes.

### **Thessaloniki, Greece: Young PeaceBuilders Lab**

**Date: March 11 - March 13, 2024**

**Location: Thessaloniki, Greece**

**Participants: 20 Youth Activists and Decision Makers**

The Young PeaceBuilders Lab in Thessaloniki focused on co-creating EU peace-making policies with decision-makers, emphasizing the importance of increasing youth political participation. This event gathered 20 participants to explore how to enhance youth engagement in European civic life.

Key discussions were:

- The lab provided a platform for participants to discuss how to effectively involve youth in the development of EU peace-making policies. The emphasis was on creating a systematic approach to soliciting input from youth groups.
- The event highlighted strategies to boost youth involvement in political and social activities, aiming to create a more inclusive and active youth space in Europe (#YouthGoal9).
- The discussions focused on practical ways to ensure that young people's perspectives are integrated into policy-making processes, fostering greater engagement and representation.

The Young PeaceBuilders Lab was instrumental in fostering collaboration between youth activists and decision-makers, paving the way for more inclusive and effective EU policies.

**Bucharest, Romania: Reconciliation Simulation Game**

**Date: May 13 - May 15, 2024**

**Location: Bucharest, Romania**

**Participants: 20 Youth PeaceBuilders**

In Bucharest, the Reconciliation Simulation Game provided a unique opportunity for 20 young participants to role-play as Peace Ambassadors. This event aimed to enhance their public policy-making skills by simulating the roles of decision-makers and democratic institutions.

### **Key features were:**

- Participants engaged in a simulation game where they assumed the roles of decision-makers and representatives of democratic institutions. This immersive experience allowed them to practice negotiating, conflict resolution, and policy development.
- The simulation focused on developing participants' skills in public policy making, equipping them with the tools necessary to influence and contribute to peacebuilding efforts.
- The game provided insights into the complexities of policy-making and the importance of youth involvement in creating effective and inclusive policies.



The Reconciliation Simulation Game was a valuable experience for participants, enabling them to gain practical skills and a deeper understanding of the policy-making process.

Looking Ahead: Continuing the Momentum

The Youth PeaceBuilders Initiative remains dedicated to empowering young people and fostering their active participation in shaping a peaceful and inclusive Europe. These events in Warsaw, Thessaloniki, and Bucharest have been instrumental in advancing our mission and building a network of engaged and informed youth leaders.

Stay Connected:

- Visit our website to learn more about our upcoming events and initiatives.

Together, we are building a future where youth lead the way to peace and inclusivity.

Thank you for your continued support!

EFID: Europejska Fundacja na Rzecz Wspierania Rozwoju Innowacyjnego

Organisation website: [www.efid.pl](http://www.efid.pl)

Project website: [www.youth-peacebuilders.eu](http://www.youth-peacebuilders.eu)

