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YouthMetre – Data dashboards engaging youngsters in youth policy

LIVERPOOL, UK

Living in an era of open information, big digital data and online communications we need to find ways to empower citizens to use the power of technology and the abundance of statistics available to them. People can then challenge policy makers and question strategic decisions taken that affect them. Web 2.0 and Cloud technologies enable democratic engagement through social information platforms, data and ideas can be communicated and campaigns initiated.

An example where this is being developed is the Forward Looking Project called the YouthMetre (<http://www.youthmetre.eu>). The YouthMetre project aims at supporting EU Member States, municipalities and regions in carrying out effective policy reforms in the field of Youth, in line with the indications provided by the EU Youth Strategy and according to the priorities perceived by its target population: young Europeans. The YouthMetre responds to the concern that many young Europeans are increasingly losing faith in their ability to shape policies concerning their future and they feel alienated from democratic processes.

The approach contributes to the Open Method of Coordination since a set of indicators will be established, measuring the “performance” of local authorities in the areas of youth policy. This will provide the potential for the exchange of good practices. The information will be visualised through a data dashboard, which is an e-tool produced to close the gap between youth and institutions. Using this tool, the YouthMetre aims to empower young people to engage with and impact on EU youth policy and the respond to the actions of local authorities. The tool gathers the perceived needs of young people, together with recognized examples of good practice in key policy areas.

The YouthMetre also aims at directly providing youngsters with necessary skills and knowledge to foster effective implementation by policy makers, of the guidelines provided by the “Youthmetre”. The instrument will be tested and disseminated among youngsters and policy makers in, at least, 20 European countries in 2017, with the aim to have a sustainable and systemic impact on Europe’s youth systems.

Members of the YouthMetre Project will participate in “Democratic Participation in a Citizen’s Europe: What next for the EU?”, to be held at the University of Liverpool on May 5th 2016.

<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/law-and-social-justice/conferences/democratic-participation-in-acitizens-europe-what-next-for-the-eu/about/>

Please visit the YouthMetre website for the latest updates: <http://youthmetre.eu/>

For more information and inquiries, please contact:

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