

Monthly News from EU NEIGHBOURS SOUTH

April 2022



The EU Neighbours South is part of the EU-funded Regional Communication Programme for the Eastern and Southern Neighbourhoods. The four-year programme (2020-2024) aims to raise awareness, increase knowledge and improve public understanding of the European Union and its policies, enhance strategic communication actions and build resilience against disinformation in the [Southern Neighbourhood](#).

HIGHLIGHTS

EU JEEL CONNECT: Coffee Talks on the GO!



Coffee Talks are convivial events between youth and EU representatives in 8 of the Southern Neighbourhood countries. They are part of the **EU JEEL CONNECT network** that aims to improve EU awareness in the region and promote EU-funded youth related opportunities.

[Discover more !](#)

The Coffee Talk series starts in Rabat!



On Friday 4 March, more than **20 young Moroccans** were invited to a meeting in Rabat with the **European Union Ambassador** to Morocco, Patricia Llobart Cussac. This event was organised in partnership with Nisrine El Kettani, the EU Neighbours South's focal point in Morocco.

With a special focus on conviviality, this [Coffee Talk](#) was an opportunity for **open discussions on the European Union-Morocco partnership** and the joint initiatives and opportunities on education, training, capacity building, mobility, social inclusion and entrepreneurship support as well as many more cooperation sectors.

The guests, mainly students, community stakeholders and young project leaders, had lengthy discussions, which were enriched with ideas and proposals arising from their own thoughts and reflections as **crucial active members of the Moroccan society**.

“We often say that young people are the future, but that is particularly true today. They are an asset and a driving force for our societies and we must do our utmost to support them”

Mrs Patricia Llobart Cussac, European Union Ambassador to Morocco

[Watch the video!](#)

Second Coffee Talk takes place in Beirut



On 31 March, **30 young Lebanese** from different educational and professional backgrounds were invited to a [convivial meeting](#) at the European Union Delegation in Beirut with **EU representatives**. This is the first in a series of “Coffee Talks”, organised in collaboration with the European regional communication programme EU Neighbours South and its focal point in Lebanon INJAZ.

The group of young individuals positively engaged in discussions with representatives of the EU Delegation to Lebanon, INJAZ moderators and EU Neighbours South team members, sharing ideas and proposals based on their experiences in the current Lebanese socioeconomic context.

“Lebanon has a vibrant civil society and youth sectors. The European Union is here, and we care about the young people in Lebanon. We support youth in Lebanon through technical and vocational education and higher education programmes in particular”

Mr Rein Nieland, Head of Cooperation EU Delegation to Lebanon

Watch the video!

EU JEEL CONNECT

All about the Youth network



If you are between 18 and 30 and you are **active** on many issues, **connected** to your peers, **engaged**, eager to be a **game changer** in your country and positively **influence** your peers:

You can become an EU JEEL connector!

- **EU JEEL CONNECT** is a network of young individuals across the Southern Neighbourhood region, led by **inspiring young changemakers** from Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine*, Syria and Tunisia.
- EU JEEL CONNECT was launched by the EU Neighbours South programme in the scope of the **European Year of Youth 2022**.
- EU Jeel Connect is being implemented in partnership with **9 focal points** in 9 countries
- The focal points will organise **a series of events and activities** in their own country, inviting young people from various backgrounds and areas to join, learn more about the EU and the EU Jeel Connect.

* This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

Become an EU JEEL CONNECTOR!

2022, the European Year of Youth



The European Union declared the year **2022 the ‘year of the Youth’** and called upon the engagement and participation of all young and talented people to help build a better future for all: **stable, green, inclusive and digital**.

“The pandemic has robbed young people of many opportunities - to meet and make new friends, to experience and explore new cultures. While we cannot give them that time back, we are proposing today to designate 2022 the European Year of Youth. From climate to social to digital, young people are at the heart of our policymaking and political priorities”

said European Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen.

With the European Year of Youth, the Commission intends to honour and support the generation that has sacrificed the most during the pandemic; to encourage all young people, especially those with fewer opportunities, from disadvantaged backgrounds, from rural or remote areas, or belonging to vulnerable groups, **to become active citizens and actors of positive change**; to promote opportunities provided by EU policies for young people to support their personal, social and professional development.

[Read more !](#)

NEWS FROM THE SOUTHERN

NEWS

EIB pledges 1€ billion new support for COVAX



NEWS

Libya: EU-funded Voluntary Humanitarian Return Programme Offers Lifeline for 60,000 Migrants



NEWS

Research and innovation: Tunisia joins Horizon Europe programme



NEWS

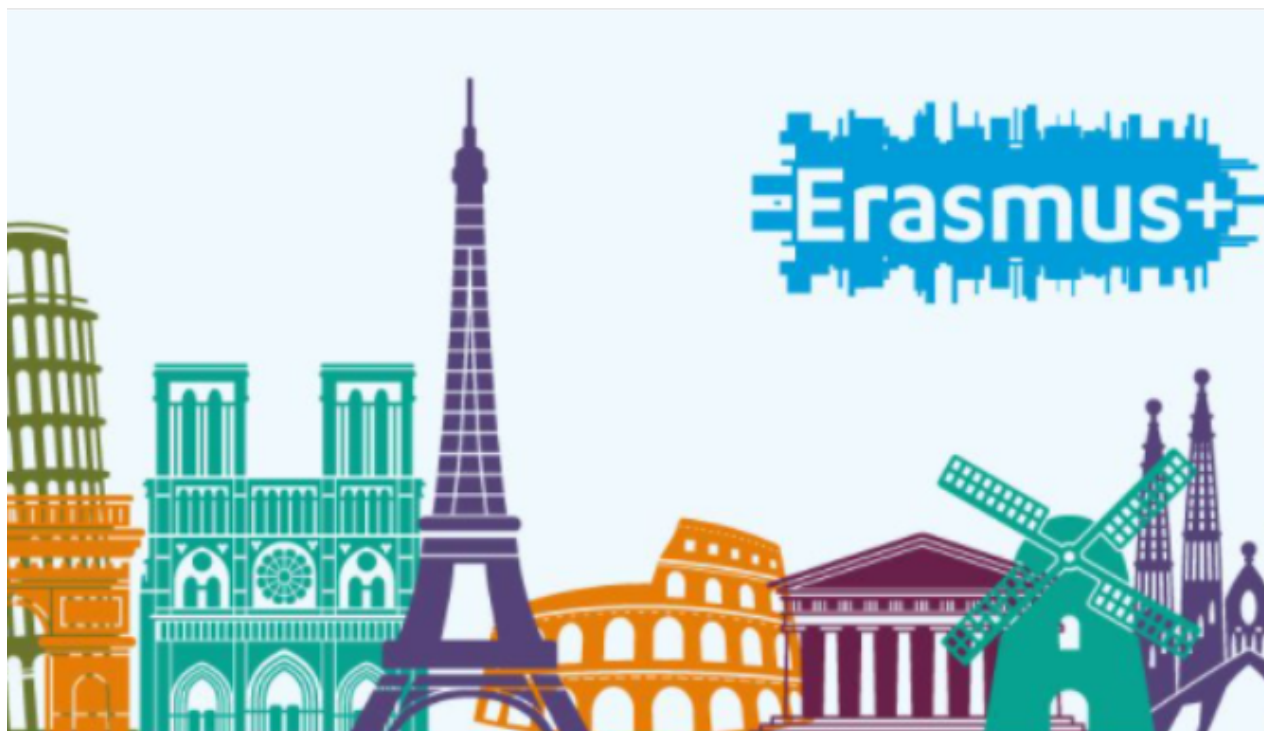
Launch of the first regional online platform for the social enterprise sector in MENA



Discover all the news!

EU PROGRAMME OF THE MONTH

Erasmus+ Enriching lives, opening minds



Erasmus+ is the EU's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. It has an estimated budget of €26.2 billion. The 2021-2027 programme places a strong focus on social inclusion, the green and digital transitions, and promoting young people's participation in democratic life.

Erasmus+ offers **mobility and cooperation opportunities** in:

- higher education
- vocational education and training
- school education (including early childhood education and care)
- adult education
- youth
- sport

Who can participate in the Erasmus+ Programme?

Individuals constitute the main target population of the Programme. However, the Programme reaches these individuals mainly through organisations, institutions, bodies or groups that organise such activities. As a general rule, participants in Erasmus+ projects must be established in an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme.

[Discover more!](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

 **OPPORTUNITY** 

Participate to the
Online Training of the European Solidarity Corps!



CLOSING DATE: 30 JUNE

 **OPPORTUNITY** 

Participate to the
Festival of the New European Bauhaus!



CLOSING DATE: 09 JUNE

 **OPPORTUNITY** 

Call for ideas:
European Spaces of Culture is looking for innovative and inspiring cultural relations projects!



CLOSING DATE: 08 MAY

 **OPPORTUNITY** 

Call for nominations:
cultural and creative Best Practice in the Southern Mediterranean



CLOSING DATE: 31 MAY

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