

Newsletter

EU NEIGHBOURS SOUTH



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



#WeAreInBrussels: Youth Networks Shine in Brussels for Europe Day

A group of **EU Goodwill Ambassadors** and **EU Jeel Connectors** travelled to Brussels for **#EuropeDays**, for a unique opportunity to engage with EU representatives, build cross-border connections and **celebrate unity in diversity**.

On their first day, the group engaged in dynamic discussions and joint reflections with **Young European Ambassadors from the East and Western Balkans**. Participants took part in stimulating dialogues with EU representatives, especially on joint initiatives for a promising future.

On the second day, participants explored **European culture and history in the Parliamentarium** and engaged in dialogue with representatives of the European Commission. They focused on **cooperation with the Southern Neighbourhood**, starting with an insightful meeting at the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations.

On the final day, our youth took an active part in the **Europe Day celebration**, visiting different EU buildings such as the Berlaymont and discovering the various EU-funded projects' stands, while sharing experiences and showcasing the EU Jeel Connect network to visitors.

EU Goodwill Ambassadors and Jeel Connectors marked Europe Day, creating lasting memories and forging new friendships. They left with inspiration, new perspectives, and a stronger **sense of unity**.

[Discover the photos here!](#)



Explore the fun with Chasing Stars!

On Europe Day, the EU Neighbours South unveiled their **board game «Chasing Stars»!** It is a fun way to learn about the European Union, its institutions and the EU's southern neighbourhood.

With «Chasing Stars», learning becomes a fun adventure where players can find out **key facts about the EU institutions**, decision-making processes and official languages. From understanding how the Council of Europe works to exploring EU-funded projects in the region, the game **unravels the complexity of the EU** in a simple and engaging way. Chasing Stars» is designed to be user-friendly and promises an immersive experience with moments of fun and laughter.

Join us on this exciting journey through the EU and experience how educational and entertaining institutional board games can be!

[Watch the launch video!](#)



Youth Day and Mental Health at the heart of Lebanon's Coffee Talks by Connectors

On 11 May, the first **Coffee Talk by Connectors in Lebanon** took place during the **Georges N. Frem Foundation's Youth Day**. Three young EU Jeel Connectors—Roy, Yasmine, and Ninar—shared their experiences with the network, explaining how their involvement has helped their personal and professional growth. Their stories inspired many young attendees by showcasing the network's role in empowering them to become **changemakers**.

On 17 May, EU Jeel connectors Rayan and Fabienne hosted "Let's Talk Mental Health, Again!" This Coffee Talk centred on **mental health awareness and burnout** featured contributions from International Medical Corps and Embrace Lebanon. Orla Colclough, Project Officer at the EU Delegation to Lebanon, also participated. This event underscored the importance of addressing topics that resonate deeply with young people.

Both events demonstrated the EU Jeel Connectors' dedication to engaging with issues that matter and inspiring positive change in their communities.

[Discover the pictures of the first Coffee Talk](#)



Fez Youth Engage at Coffee Talk by Connectors in Morocco

On 24 May, El Ghali Ouali Alami, EU Jeel Connector from Morocco, organised a **Coffee Talk by Connectors in Fez**. This gathering drew over **30 youth** from the area, including five EU Jeel Connectors.

The Coffee Talk featured a brainstorming session **focused on the economic development** of the Fès-Meknès region. Participants exchanged ideas and strategies about the potential for growth and innovation in the area. The event also aimed to **raise awareness about the European Union** and the various opportunities it offers in Morocco.

The event was a chance for young attendees to learn about **becoming EU Jeel Connectors** themselves, offering them a pathway to engage with EU initiatives and contribute to their communities.



The first Media Connect in Lebanon was held in Beirut, in collaboration with the **Maharat Foundation**. Journalism students delved into the topic, **«Young Today, Poor Tomorrow? Social Protection for Youth in Lebanon.»** Embracing Constructive Journalism, the event sparked positive dialogues and showcased impactful initiatives.

This Media Connect brought together over **20 journalism students** from Notre Dame University, Antonine University, and the Arab University to discuss social protection amid Lebanon's economic crisis. The event showcased the country's new EU-backed social protection strategy, benefiting vulnerable groups and private sector workers.

As part of a broader initiative by EU Neighbours South to engage young journalists from the Southern Neighbourhood, similar events are planned in Morocco, Jordan, and Libya.

[Watch a video recap](#)

NEWS

SYRIA: The EU raises more than €7.5 billion



ALGERIA: photographic exhibition at the EUD



OPPORTUNITIES

Apply for the Mediterranean Youth in Action Programme

A promotional poster for the Mediterranean Youth in Action Programme. It features a young woman with glasses and dark hair. The text includes 'MEDITERRANEAN YOUTH IN ACTION', 'YOUNG RESEARCHERS', and 'VOICING YOUTH KNOWLEDGE'. On the right side, it says 'APPLY NOW DEADLINE 27 JUNE'.

Enter the Lorenzo Natali Competition 2024

A promotional poster for the Lorenzo Natali Competition 2024. It features a photograph of a person in a helmet and vest holding a camera. The text includes '32ND ANNUAL', 'LORENZO NATALI PRIZE', and 'BEYOND THE HEADLINES'.