ITUEvents

Generation Connect
European digital youth jam

*Contributing to
the European Year of Youth*

Online meeting
4 April 2022
10:00 - 14:00 CET

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REGIONAL F⚙RUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

Generation Connect European Digital Youth Jam

CONCEPT NOTE

Background and rationale

The **European Digital Youth Jam** is an event organized by the members of the ITU Generation Connect - Europe Youth Group (GC-EUR), facilitated by the ITU Office for Europe.

The aim of the Digital Youth Jam is to bring together young European leaders from different organizations to create meaningful engagement by lifting young voices to regional level discussions.

This event will serve as another step towards the **Generation Connect Youth Summit**, to be held in June 2022, as well as the **European Year of Youth 2022** as declared by the European Commission.

The Digital Youth Jam for Europe will focus in particular on three themes, i.e.:

- **Meaningful youth engagement**: Effective mechanisms towards youth engagement in the policy and strategy making at the regional level and beyond.

- **Quality education**: The challenges in achieving quality education in Europe aligned with the expectations of digital future;

- **Gender equality:** Actions undertaken by youth to empower girls and young women to pursue education in digital skills and a career in the STEM field;

Session objectives and expected outcomes

The outcomes of the discussion will form the foundations for the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for Europe and Central Asia, to be held on the 6-7 April, as well as to the regional celebrations of the International Girls in ICTs Day, taking place on the 28 April.

Additionally, these outcomes will form the bases for a contribution from the youth to the Generation Connect Youth Summit 2022

Organizers

Lead organizers: Generation Connect – Europe Youth Group, ITU Office for Europe

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Agenda and Structure

10:00 – 10:15	**Opening remarks** *The Digital Youth Jam is aiming to build foundations and strengthen youth engagement in the Europe region towards the upcoming [Generation Connect Global Youth Summit](#), to be held on 2-4 June 2022.*
10:15 – 11:15	**Session 1: Meaningful youth engagement – European Year of Youth** This panel discussion between European young leaders will address effective mechanisms towards youth engagement in the policy and strategy making at the regional level and beyond. Being 2022 the [European Year of Youth](#), as declared by the European Commission, some key points regarding this unique opportunity for youth to assume an active role towards building a better future, will be discussed.
11:15 – 11:30	**Networking break**

11:30 – 12:30	**Session 2: Youth voices in quality education towards a digital future** In this session the main challenges in achieving quality education in Europe aligned with the expectations of the digital future will be discussed, in addition to envisaging the Digital IT curriculum at schools
12:30 – 12:45	**Networking break**
12:45 – 13:45	**Session 3: Youth actions towards gender equality & young women empowerment in ICTs** This panel will hold a meaningful discussion between powerful young women that will highlight the actions undertaken by youth to empower girls and young women to pursue education in digital skills and a career in the STEM field. This session will shape the bases for the contribution to the regional celebration of the International Day of Girls in ICTs, to be held on 28 April.
13:45 – 14:00	**Closing remarks**

List of Panellists

Confirmed speakers:

Opening Remarks:

- **Mr. Jaroslaw Ponder**: *Head of the ITU Office for Europe*

Session 1:

- **Mr. Ivan Martinovic:** *MSc Electrical Engineer and Phd student at the University of Montenegro and his research area is Application of artificial intelligence in medicine.*
- **Ms. Veronica Piccolo**: *Chair at the Youth SIG, the Special Interest Group of Internet Society focused on youth and part of the YouthDIG organising team, she has vast experience in youth engagement and actions that involve youth voices regarding policy making.*

Session 2:

- **Ms. Sabrina Vorbau:** *Project Manager at European Schoolnet and has been a member of its Digital Citizenship Team since 2014. She also coordinates the youth activities and annual Pan-European Youth Panel as part of the Better Internet for Kids (BIK) project.*
- **Ms Luisa Franco Machado:** *Currently working as a Graduate Consultant for the National Development Bank of Colombia (Findeter), she has also been an AI Policy intern at OECD, a researcher at the Institute for Internet and the Just Society on Big Data ethics (including privacy and data protection), among others. Her outstanding background in the tech field, will provide an interesting insight on how to improve the Digital CV at schools.*
- **Ms. Lella Violet Halloum**: *youngest EVER IBM Z Champion in the programme's history for her efforts to demystify the tech industry by uniting thousands of young technologists globally to use technology as a catalyst to achieve social good*

Session 3:

- ***Ms. Mauricia Abdol Tshilunda*** *: CEO of Data Works Communications (DWC), DWC addresses the UN-SDG 5 namely gender equality by elevating the voices of African women and girl youths in technology through its subsidiary NPO, the ElevateHER Africa Network*
- ***Ms. Priya Burci****: Currently the COO of AIME, a mental health startup that offers customized guidance programs. Co-Lead Organiser of Hacking for Humanity, in collaboration with Girls in Tech Switzerland. While working as CEO at Powercoders, she has been featured in Elle's Successful Women under 30 and Startup Italia's Unstoppable Women*
- ***Ms. Lady Mariéme Jamme:*** *she has conducted several speeches about girls' education through STEAMD and empowerment of youth living in marginalized communities. She has launched iamtheCODE.org, the first African-led global movement to mobilize government, the private sector, and philanthropic foundations to advance STEAMD Education, having the goal to empower 1 million young women & girls globally to become coders by 2030 and align with the UN 2030 Agenda.*