

A7 - DiscoverEU – A citizen's idea makes its way to Erasmus

About this session...

DiscoverEU is the newest branch on the tree of European opportunities for learning mobility for young people. DiscoverEU offers 18-year olds a travel pass, information about the EU and access to an online community of other 18-year olds from across the EU. The action enables young people to learn about Europe: the continent, its people, its habits, its cultural heritage, as well as it equips them with knowledge, life skills and competences through mobility. DiscoverEU started as a Preparatory Action based on the guidance from the European Parliament and is limited to a central and direct implementation.

In this current phase, 18-year old Europeans can apply twice a year on the [European Youth Portal](#), either individually or in groups of up to five people. The contest includes five multiple-choice questions about the European Union and a subsidiary question. Since June 2018, the Commission has awarded **70,000 travel passes** through four application rounds for which **350,000 young people applied**. In 2020 there will be two more rounds under the current Preparatory Action.

The DiscoverEU experience **fosters the sense of belonging** to the European Union. It also enables the young participants to **develop key competences** such as multilingualism, digital and technology-based competence, interpersonal skills and learning to learn competence, active citizenship, entrepreneurship, cultural awareness and expression competence, as well as skills such as independence, confidence, openness or problem solving.

DiscoverEU **focuses on different dimensions** promoting a **diverse and inclusive** experience that helps young people to clear certain obstacles. It also tries to stimulate the learning experience of the young people by offering **easily accessible and informal learning opportunities**. And, last but not least, it strongly promotes sustainable travel.

Something to think about...

During our session, you will receive a more detailed overview of how the Preparatory Action came to life, the lessons learned from our assessments and stakeholder feedback as well as the plans for the future of the action. Furthermore, you will have the opportunity to listen to two testimonials from former DiscoverEU travellers and to ask them questions about their experiences.

Three dimensions play an important role under the DiscoverEU action: learning, inclusion and green practices. Many measures have already been taken to promote activities in these areas, but we can also use new inspiration.

Do you know of best-practice examples in the youth field that could support or promote these dimensions?

How do you think these topics and the experiences of the young people can affect their future path as European citizens?