

ADVOCACY ACTION PLAN

This action plan was developed by the participants who attended the study session "I, Youth Advocate" – 7-10 October 2019 – co-organised by MIJARC Europe, DBYN and the European Youth Centre Budapest. It is a proposal subject to the approval of the European Coordinators' meeting and the General Assembly of MIJARC Europe. It is aimed to guide the advocacy work of the group of Commissioners of MIJARC Europe.

THEMATIC FOCUS POINT: A sustainable future for agriculture and rural youth

ADVOCACY AIM: Raise awareness on what sustainable agriculture means and how it contributes to developing rural areas for young people and others.

OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS/ACTIVITIES	TARGET DATE	POLICY LEVEL	RESPONSIBLE	LINK TO COUNCIL OF EUROPE'S RECOMMENDATIONS	
					YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACCESS TO RIGHTS	ACCESS OF YOUNG PEOPLE FROM DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS TO SOCIAL RIGHTS
Get to know the facts - Learn about key agriculture-related positions at local, regional and national level - Learn about CAP 2020 - Learn about national policies at local level	Local visits with local and regional Briefings on national and European policies on agriculture Visiting official websites and signing-up for updates	April 2020	Local & national	MIJARC Europe member organisations European Coordinators Agriculture Commissioners	Taking a co-ordinated approach to improving young people's access to rights with co-operation across all relevant policy areas at international, national, regional and local levels.	
Defining a clear position on sustainable agriculture following a RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH	Seminar bringing together young people from at least 10 different European countries Writing a position paper Writing key messages	August 2020	European	Seminar participants MIJARC Europe's executive team Agriculture Commissioners	Establishing or developing youth policies at all levels to promote and facilitate all young people's access to rights more effectively, With regard to autonomy and social inclusion of young people: ensure policies reflect and address the special needs of young people living in rural areas and disadvantaged neighbourhoods, by improving access to education, employment, housing and transport.	Education and training: updating educational curricula to make them more relevant to the needs of young people for their employability and the challenges facing young people entering the labour market; - special focus on agriculture as the main area of employment for people in rural areas
Spreading out the message and making our position heard	Meetings with key decision-makers (MEPs of each country) Spring party – MIJARC Europe Other networking events Getting co-signatories for the position paper/manifesto Online and offline media coverage	May 2021	European	MIJARC Europe's executive team Agriculture Commissioners	establishing strategies to improve young people's access to rights that reflect the principles of the universality and indivisibility of human rights, non-discrimination and equal opportunities, gender equality, accountability, democracy, participation and intergenerational solidarity	Promoting meaningful participation: providing youth organisations active in disadvantaged neighbourhoods with sustainable support and resources for reaching out to the least enfranchised young people and for facilitating their participation in relevant debates



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THEMATIC FOCUS POINT: Our European vision in an interconnected world – TOPIC IN FOCUS: CLIMATE CHANGE

ADVOCACY AIM: Increasing the sustainability of all MIJARC Europe events.

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					YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACCESS TO RIGHTS	ACCESS OF YOUNG PEOPLE FROM DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS TO SOCIAL RIGHTS
Defining general sustainability principles for MIJARC Europe events	 Brainstorming of MIJARC Europe's commissioners Checking sustainability guidelines of other instructions Checking idealism versus reality – what is desirable and what is actually achievable 	December 2019	European – internal to MIJARC Europe network	MIJARC Europe executive team European Coordinators European vision Commissioners	With regard to access to education: — invest in quality and inclusive education (formal and non-formal); - including environmental education With regard to autonomy and social inclusion of young people: remove barriers depriving young people access to quality jobs, which can support a decent standard of living; - as climate change is a huge barrier to young people living in highly affected areas such as islands With regard to access to health-care services: provide comprehensive and age-appropriate information on healthy lifestyles, including on physical activity and healthy eating;	investing in education and training for disadvantaged neighbourhoods from pre-school through the tertiary education; - including environmental education for young people living in rural areas
Creating a Sustainability Checklist for international activities	Writing a first draft of concrete points to check during different stages of the event: planning, implementing and follow-up Peer-review and consultations with the member organisations Testing the use of the checklist during the next General Assembly meeting of MIJARC Europe Adapting the draft version and adopting it during the GA	May 2020	MIJARC Europe network	European Commissioners MIJARC Europe's executive team European vision Commissioners Participants to events		



Mainstreaming the	•	Using the adapted	December	MIJARC	MIJARC Europe's member	
Sustainability Checklist		version of the checklist	2021	Europe	organisation	
and transferring it to		during all MIJARC Europe		network		
national and local level		events		and	MIJARC Europe's external	
	•	Translating and adapting		beyond	partners	
		the checklist to each				
		MO's local reality				
	•	Using the adapted				
		checklists when planning				
		and implementing				
		national and local events				



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THEMATIC FOCUS POINT: Citizenship and youth participation in rural development

ADVOCACY AIM: Increasing the participation of young people active local level in MIJARC Europe representation structures and in advocacy at European level in general

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					YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACCESS TO RIGHTS	ACCESS OF YOUNG PEOPLE FROM DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS TO SOCIAL RIGHTS
Building participation skills at local level	MIJARC Europe schools – local training centres or annual traditional training activities	December 2020	European – internal to MIJARC Europe network	MIJARC Europe executive team European Coordinators European vision Commissioners	With regard to access to education: — increase efforts to recognise non-formal learning and youth work (Strasbourg process) and ensure compatibility with the standards and quality of vocational education and training (VET) as well as higher education and qualifications (Bologna process and Copenhagen process). With regard to autonomy and social inclusion of young people: establish or develop youth policies and youth work at all levels; With regard to youth mobility: continue promoting equal access to mobility for all young people, in particular volunteers, regardless of their country of origin, background or eventual disability, including through the wider use of existing European schemes, simplified visa procedures and access to mobility programmes; With regard to active citizenship, democracy and participation: recognise and support youth-led, independent democratic organisations and national youth councils as channels of participation and involvement for all young people; facilitate opportunities for all young people to assemble, associate and express themselves freely, including through e-participation as a complementary tool; With regard to access to health-care services: provide comprehensive and age-appropriate information on healthy lifestyles, including on physical activity and healthy eating;	Education and training: promoting the development of non-formal educational partnerships between schools, youth workers and independent youth organisations as part of a holistic lifelong learning strategy at the centre of which is placed the learners' needs and their active participation; Sport leaisure and culture recognising the potential of both sport and culture to promote active youth participation and citizenship, social cohesion, inclusion and wellbeing, and giving these more prominence in community development schemes; improving the accessibility and affordability of cultural opportunities including theatre, concerts or exhibitions for young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods; Promoting meaningful participation opportunities in the planning and management of their living environment providing youth organisations active in disadvantaged neighbourhoods with sustainable support and resources for reaching out to the least enfranchised young people and for facilitating their participation in relevant debates. Ensuring that all young people are fully able to exercise their role as active citizens without discrimination Recognising and supporting non-formal education, youth work, youth organisation and youth workers in disadvantaged neighbourhoods
Increasing the level of understanding of MIJARC Europe's specific objectives and action plans by using a youth- friendly language	Publishing info-graphics MIJARC Europe Advocacy Handbook — inspired by the Advocacy Handbook published by DBYN Translating key documents using a youth-friendly language Publishing youth-friendly versions of different policy documents	March 2020	MIJARC Europe network	European Commissioners MIJARC Europe's executive team European vision Commissioners Participants to events		
Increasing the "cool factor" of being part of MIJARC Europe representation structures	Testimonials from current commissioners and members of representation structures Short videos on representation roles News from events and activities to which MIJARC Europe is represented by its members All of these promoted on online media channels	July 2020	MIJARC Europe network and beyond	MIJARC Europe's member organisation MIJARC Europe's external partners		