



INTERREG

ANNUAL EVENT 2021

7-8 OCTOBER, BRUSSELS



#Interreg2021

Interreg



Co-funded by
the European Union

Fons Janssen (25, nederlandNL, Limburg, Veulen)
MSc. Biotechnology

- Fulbright USA-EU alumnus
- Climate KIC master label
- Contribution consultation ECP
- Interreg 30 years youth manifesto
Participant Interreg project Cleverland
- European Climate Pact NL Coordinator



Expectation 1: Rights-based approach of youth involvement

- It is not nice to have, it is a right youth has
- All authorities need to be on board
- Citizen participation in Just Transition Regions



Expectation 2: Use validated youth participation mechanisms

- Existing toolkits from democratic chosen youth representatives
 - European Youth Forum
 - Young Environment Europe
 - Rural Youth Europe
 - JTR Youth participation toolkit
- Strengthen regional democracy (via national youth councils)



**POLICY DOCUMENT
ON QUALITY YOUTH
PARTICIPATION AND
REPRESENTATION IN INSTITUTIONS**

ONLINE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
20-22 NOVEMBER 2020



Expectation 3: Working as one Europe

- Align and complement multi-governance levels
- Link and coordinate alumni networks:
 - Erasmus+
 - European Solidarity Corps
 - European Climate Pact
 - European Youth Capitals
 - IVY + Border Focal Point Network



Example: Champion European Green Deal Flagship projects

- Housing New European Bauhaus
- Nature: Food Forest Festivals
- Circular Economy Plastic Avengers
- JTR: Climate KIC journey / hackatons
- Mobility: Interrail + Volunteering holiday
- Energy: Erasmus Energy – EURES on job shortages
- Diplomacy: AU-EU cooperation youth hub



Personal findings NL involved Interreg's

- Not yet an NL national youth strategy for EU/Interreg programmes
- Existing youth council of the North Sea Committee
- Existing programmes mostly for youth, not by/with youth
- Narrowed scope of youth
- Administrative / financial hurdles to easily engage youth
 - Student group work (vocational / (applied) sciences)
 - Internships / Traineeship
 - Interreg Reporters
 - Monitoring committees



Call for action!

- Research and monitor quality level of youth participation in Interreg programmes, secretariats and projects
 - Action research (observe, recommend, help)
 - 2022 the year of youth
let's make the manifesto a reality

