

NEWSLETTER

Routes for fostering sense of initiative and active citizenship among disaffiliated youth

YOUTH IN ROUTE IN A NUTSHELL

Project Youth in Route tackles youth disaffiliation grounded in Robert Castel's sociological theory, equipping youth workers with cutting-edge tools and knowledge. It implements practical measures to address root causes of youth disengagement, whilst championing a positive vision of young people as engaged citizens. By advocating for a transversal, qualitative approach, it aims to influence policy and foster robust cross-sectoral partnerships, ultimately reimagining support for disaffiliated youth.

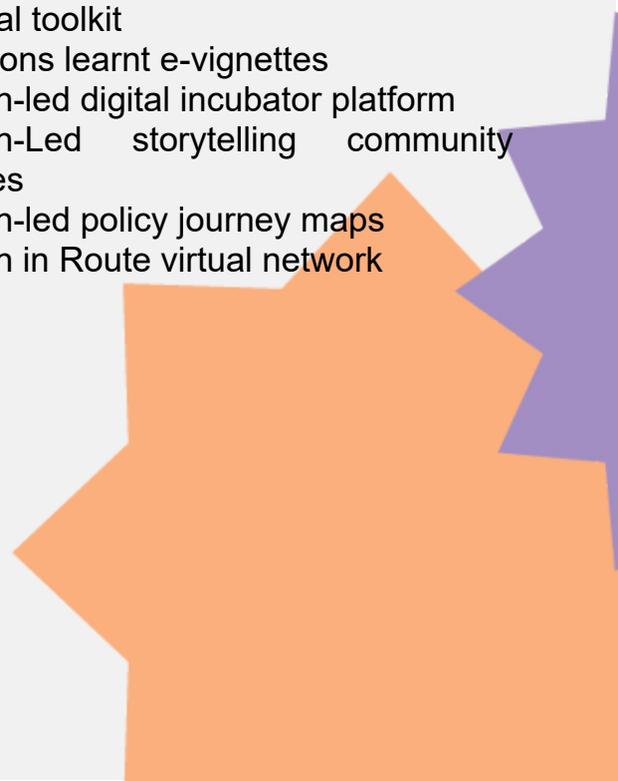
MAIN ACTIVITIES

- 3-Level Training & EU Capacity Building for Youth Workers – A comprehensive training program covering theoretical insights, practical challenges, and actionable strategies to address youth disaffiliation.
- Youth-Led Digital Incubator – A digital platform providing resources on career opportunities, personal development, and social engagement for marginalized youth.
- Outreach Program for Effective Impact & Sustainability – Community engagement efforts including storytelling circles, media campaigns, and policy dialogues to shift societal perceptions and influence decision-makers.

TARGET GROUPS

- Target group #1. Youth workers and professionals in youth-serving organisations (Users).
- Target group #2. Disaffiliated youth aged 16-30 in Belgium, France, Portugal, and Serbia, including school and social drop out, and those with migrant background (ultimate beneficiaries).
- Target group #3. Policy makers, educators, employers, and community leaders (Systemic impact & sustainability)

EXPECTED RESULTS

- 3-level training programme for youth workers
 - Digital toolkit
 - Lessons learnt e-vignettes
 - Youth-led digital incubator platform
 - Youth-Led storytelling community circles
 - Youth-led policy journey maps
 - Youth in Route virtual network
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Kick-off meeting in Brussels

FCB and BAO Jeunesse hosted first transnational project meeting in Brussels on April 16, 2025. Each partner briefly presented their organisation and activities. This was followed by presentation of project's background, aims and outcomes, while each partner presented working package they are responsible for. Partners were then presented with methodology of evaluation and management quality and templates, as well as the administrative and financial rules of the project and reporting.

Transnational project meeting in Paris – drafting the 3-level training programme

Second Transnational project meeting was hosted by Lycée Louis Lumières in Paris on October 9, 2025, and attended by representatives from all partner organisations. The agenda included updates on WP2 (Training Programme for Youth Workers), WP3 (Youth-led Digital Incubator), WP4 (Outreach and Sustainability), Evaluation and Quality Assurance, and the plan for the next 6 months. Partners discussed the Global report on National consultations with youth workers and Guidelines for implementing the national consultations with disaffiliated youth. Lycée Louis Lumières, FCB and BAO-J arranged the activities related to developing guidelines, templates and content for 3-level training program. Mindshift presented the Alpha version of the online Incubator.

National consultation with youth workers

As a part of the WP2, national consultations with youth workers are conducted in Belgium, France, Portugal and Serbia. The primary objective was to assess the training needs of youth workers regarding their work with disaffiliated youth. The consultations are gathered via an online questionnaire, corroborated by the results from the 4 national focus groups.

Key findings indicate that the most significant challenges faced by youth workers are Lack of Motivation among youth, Stigma and Discrimination, and Lack of Institutional Support. The most urgent training needs identified are Understanding Youth Disaffiliation and addressing Psychological and Social Barriers. There is a strong preference for In-person Workshops and Peer Learning & Mentoring as training formats. Recommendations for the YOUTH IN ROUTE training programme include developing a curriculum focused on practical methodologies and psychological support, utilising blended learning formats, and creating mechanisms for ongoing peer support and institutional advocacy.



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