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#### **EU INFOPOINT NEWSLETTER**

JANUARY 2023 ISSUE: 88

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#### Welcome 2023 European Year of Skills!

Every year, the European Commission chooses a theme for a public awareness campaign.

In 2022, the Commission proposed 2023 to be the European Year of Skills. The goal is to make sure that people in Europe have the necessary skills for today's changing world, especially the shift towards a green and digital world and the need for increased resilience, including getting good jobs and adapting to change.

As EU Infopoint, we welcome European Year of Skills and are proud to announce that we will be organising many activities and events to highlight this theme. Please, continue to follow us on social media to be informed about these activities.



# Screening of the "Cypriot Culinary Experiences" Documentary

The premier screening of the EU funded short documentary "Cypriot Culinary Experiences", a joint collaboration between the EU Infopoint and The Centre of Visual Arts and Research (CVAR), took place on Tuesday, 24 January 2023 from 18:00 - 19:30 at the Home for Cooperation.

Speaking at the event, Ms. Judit
Rózsa, the Director of Resources,
Coordination and Aid Programme in
the Directorate-General for Structural
Reform Support of the European
Commission stated that at the core
of this documentary is a commitment
to peace and harmony between the
communities, an exhibition of
common traditions that bind the
people of Cyprus together, and a

Also speaking at the event, Ms. Rita Severis. Executive Director of The Centre of Visual Arts and Research (CVAR), said that the stories and memories shared among the cooks during the preparation of this documentary have defied time to reach the present day and will be carried to the future. "This documentary project exceeded everyone's expectations because we met each other, we chatted with each other, we teased each other, we had fun, we worked together, we learned from each other and we realised that our food is so common to both of us that as it kept us together in the past, it will take us further to the future" she added.

message of hope for the future. "We hope that the message of peace and solidarity among the Cypriot people will be strengthened with this documentary, and we are proud to have had the opportunity to support such an initiative. As the European Commission we would like to reiterate our commitment to continue to support the reunification of Cyprus" said Ms. Rózsa.

Following the premier screening, the documentary was also broadcast on local TV channels, Sim TV and Kanal T and will also be broadcast on PIK TV as part of the Mazi/Birlikte programme.

To find out more about further screenings follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> & <u>Twitter</u> The trailer for the documentary can be viewed here.



#### "Next Stop Europe!" Webinar

The European Commission supported the "NEXT STOP EUROPE!" online event where information about travel and experience opportunities in Europe was discussed on Tuesday, 31 January 2023, via Zoom.

In his opening remarks, European Commission Cyprus Settlement Support Unit, Head of Cooperation Stefan Simosas, stated that the DiscoverEU program was launched in 2018 to promote train travel and a greener mode of transport, among young people. "The DiscoverEU program mainly involves traveling by rail, but those living on islands such as Cyprus also have the opportunity to benefit from this programme", said Mr. Simosas.

The event included presentation by trainer and youth worker Maria Mavronicola who talked about the DiscoverEU programme and provided the audience all they need to know about applying from Cyprus. Eurail Business Manager, Tom Medici, talked about how to travel within and between 33 countries in Europe with Eurail.

EU scholar and influencer Ayşe Hacıarif shared her experience travelling in Europe and encouraged others to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the EU to explore and experience its richness and diversity.

You can learn more about the DiscoverEU program and how to 'Expand Your Comfort Zone' here.



### Launch of 2023/24 Scholarships Programme

The European Commission announced the launch of the 2023/24 EU Scholarship Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community on 24 January.

With a budget of €5 million, this programme will continue to provide opportunities in different areas and levels of education, training and professional development for the Turkish Cypriot community in the European Union.

The programme aims to contribute to the reunification of the island, boost economic development and support the EU's efforts to upskill and reskill the workforce. With an emphasis on fields such as software engineering

and sustainable energy
technology, the scholarship
programme will help participants
develop in-demand skills and
provide a valuable contribution to
the 2023 European Year of Skills.
Additionally, the Alumni Connect
initiative will connect past
scholarship recipients and continue
supporting them beyond their
scholarship experience.

Click <u>here</u> for more information about the programme.

The application deadline is 2 April, 2023, and all interested applicants can apply online via the EU Scholarships website. Don't miss this opportunity to invest in your future!

## **WAKE UP** NTREPRENEUR!

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#### **Into Business Incentive Scheme** by Innovative Entrepreneurship

The Into Business program is a fantastic opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs to take the first steps towards starting their own business. The European Union funded program provides support and guidance through a series of workshops, mentoring sessions, and business planning tools.

Since its pilot launch in 2019, the program has reached over 1,000 participants, helping to launch over 300 successful businesses. In the current iteration, which started in 2021, the program offers up to 7 hours of one-on-one mentoring to help individuals develop a viable business plan.

The program is available in both online and in-person formats, with support offered in Turkish or English, and consists of three stages that can be tailored to meet individual needs. Best of all, it's completely free and open to anyone over the age of 18 in the Turkish Cypriot community. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, so don't miss out on this incredible opportunity!

#### **NEW PUBLICATION**



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# UPCOMING THEMES AND ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE EU INFOPOINT & OTHER EU FUNDED PROJECTS

mBot2 Trainings for secondary school, high school and vocational high school teachers as a follow uo to the First School Labs competition (21-23 February 2023)



- Seminar on Future Skills (Date TBC)
- Workshop Series: Digital and Soft Skills for the Future (Date TBC)

















The EU Infopoint aims to increase public knowledge, awareness and understanding of the European Union, its values, policies and programmes as well as the EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community. The EU Infopoint is a project funded by the European Union under the Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community with the aim to bring the Turkish Cypriot community closer to the EU.

Funded by the European Union

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