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70 YEARS OF SOLIDARITY



#EuropeDay

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Schuman Declaration, presented by French Foreign Affairs Minister Robert Schuman on 9 May 1950, setting out a new form of political cooperation in Europe which has ultimately become the European Union of today. This year's Europe Day activities were held against the background of the unprecedented challenges posed by the new coronavirus outbreak, which have led to impressive displays of solidarity all across Europe. This is why, on Europe Day 2020 the European Commission wanted to express its gratitude, through a series of online activities, to all those who are helping their communities in these difficult moments.

Europe Day 2020 was celebrated under extraordinary circumstances, which have brought out the best in communities. To mark the occasion and pay tribute to all those working tirelessly for their communities, the European Commission put together a programme of activities underpinned by the objectives of bringing the two communities closer together, celebrating Europe's diversity and rich cultural heritage, investing in future generations and providing information on the coronavirus response.



Bi-Communal Cyprus Chamber Orchestra Concerts

As part of Europe Day 2020 activities and with the support of the European Commission, the EU Infopoint organised online activities which contributed to bringing European Union symbols and values closer to the Turkish Cypriot community. In this context, the bi-communal Cyprus Chamber Orchestra (CCO) contributed to the activities with 3 concerts which were held on the evenings of 9, 10, and 11 May. The concerts were held as a Facebook Watch Party and gathered more than 200 people live.



Online Music Workshop for Children

Music constitutes an important pillar of European culture and is also an essential component of Europe's cultural diversity as it has the power to bring positive changes in society. To highlight this positive effect of music during the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU Infopoint organised an online learning programme series for children. The programme which targeted children aged 6 and over, consisted of 10 videos that were published between 7 – 21 May on the EU Infopoint Facebook page. Almost 200 children, who were registered for the training, received a digital certificate after the programme was completed. All online music workshop videos are available here.



Online Education Series for Children - Let's Explore Europe

As part of the ongoing online education series, short animated videos were prepared for children to promote 27 EU countries during Europe Day 2020 activities. These entertaining and informative videos included music, culture, food, and the language of each country, using the European Commission's

"Let's Explore Europe" publication as a basis. The videos, which can be found here, reached more than 5,000 viewers during this period.

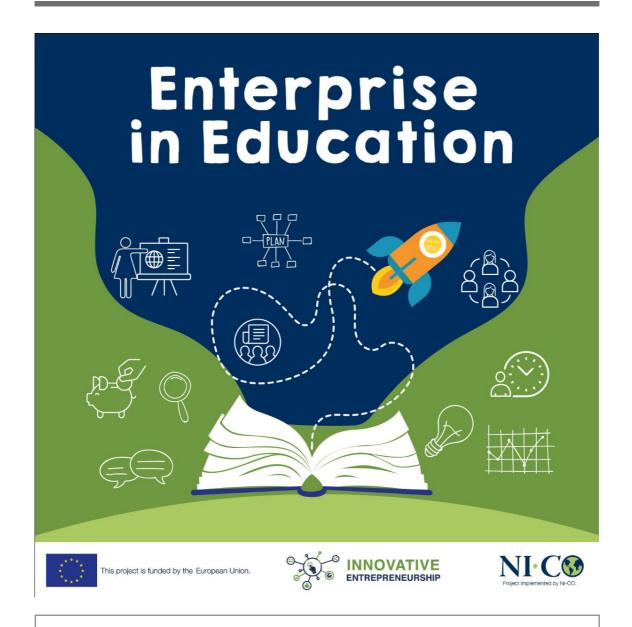
"Stay Home, Stay with Music" Online Concerts

A series of online music concerts which commenced in April, continued in May with various musicians from all genres to promote music as a way to bring communities together, making music accessible to all and also emphasise the importance of staying home to contain the spread of COVID-19 during this period. With 8 more concerts held in May, in total 16 concerts with more than 4.500 live viewers were broadcasted as Facebook Watch Parties on the EUIP Facebook page.

COVID-19 Public Information Campaign to Raise Awareness in the Turkish Cypriot Community

The EU Infopoint continued its activities in May as part of the Covid-19 information campaign in partnership with the Turkish Cypriot Doctors' Association in order to raise awareness about the virus and to ensure that accurate and up to date information is accessible to the community. The wide-reaching campaign included many elements such as infographics and text messages, that are distributed via social media, EU Infopoint website, local TV stations, newspapers, and online news sites with an aim to raise awareness about COVID-19 and to share practical information on how to stay safe as well as dispel any myths about the virus. You may access the information campaign materials in English and Turkish at the COVID-19 section of the EU Infopoint website





Enterprise in Education is the first long-run enterprise programme in schools

implemented by the European Union-funded Innovative Entrepreneurship project in the Turkish Cypriot community.

The objective of the programme is to provide young people the opportunity to develop entrepreneurial skills including teamwork, communication, problem-solving, creativity, and financial capability. Programme helps students to build confidence, resilience, and a self-awareness of their own capabilities both for life and work in the future as it supports the development of employability skills that are important to modern employers.

A total number of 218 students between 11-18 years-old set up 42 minibusinesses by the end of eight (8) entrepreneurship workshops delivered by Carol Fitzsimmons and Alice Quinn between 26 February - 6 March 2020.

Evaluation of the 36 mini-business reports was undertaken by a jury consisting of representatives from six business and entrepreneurship-related organisations: TC Chamber of Commerce, TC Chamber of Industry, TC Chamber of Shopkeepers and Artisans, GİGEM, Scope Consulting & Turkish Bank.

Five mini businesses were evaluated and identified for the following awards among 36 competitive, creative, innovative and successful business ideas:

The most successful mini-business idea: CACTUS GARDEN, Erenköy High School

The most innovative business idea: BABUTSA VINEGAR, Haydarpaşa Vocational School

The best marketing strategy: DARLENE, Bülent Ecevit Anadolu High School Social entrepreneurship award: PAYLAŞIM PAZARI (Sharing Bazaar), Bayraktar Türk Maarif College

Local product award: ŞEKER PORTAKALI (Candied Orange), Lefke Gazi High School

Students highlighted that during two months of Enterprise in Education programme, they had a chance to gain experience in team working, practical thinking, understanding of basic financial concepts, crisis management (COVID-19 related) and ideation. It was also emphasised both by students and their teachers that the programme helped students develop skills on communication, financial management, problem-solving, decision-making, coordination and reporting. Teachers from eleven schools confirmed that Enterprise in Education programme was beneficial for the students.

EU funded support on entrepreneurship education will be ongoing with various programmes through the Innovative Entrepreneurship project. Please follow project Facebook and Instagram pages for future programmes.



The recent economic crisis, the increased unemployment rates, and the limited opportunities in traditional jobs have worked as a driving force for the creation of new alternative approaches to employment that can lead to creative, sustainable jobs. Social Entrepreneurship is the engine for social innovation and can play a crucial role in generating new job opportunities for the unemployed.

To tackle this situation during the COVID-19 pandemic period, the EU-funded GoSocialCy project organised a series of online introductory and advanced workshops for people who are interested in exploring alternative ways of employment and benefiting the society and environment. The workshops which took place in the second half of May provided information on how to set up a small business, the main steps for setting up social enterprises, how to stimulate the generation of innovative ideas, and business models of social enterprises through examples.

Please visit the <u>GoSocialCy website</u> for more information.



Pusula / Ππούσουλας

Ideas that can bring substantial, positive impact at scale in everyday life in Cyprus

In recent weeks, Pusula was looking for impactful ideas that will benefit people across the whole island. A total of €50,000 was allocated for the implementation of the idea that received the most support from the public. In just 12 weeks, a total of 1,690 people registered on Pusula, and 68 ideas were submitted on various topics.

As a result of the public voting, "Gardens of the Future", promoting urban sustainable farming through a network of gardens received the most votes and became the winner of the first call.

The Call for Expression of Interest (EOI) for vendors to implement the winning idea of Pusula's first campaign (Gardens of the Future) is now open! Interested organizations can access the World Bank procurement site at https://wbgeconsult2.worldbank.org/wbgec/index.html and check the EOI number #1269271 for further information!

For more information about the campaign, please visit: https://www.cypruspusula.org/campaigns



The European Union has been funding a scholarship programme for the Turkish Cypriot community since 2007 with the objective of bringing Turkish Cypriots closer to the European Union. It is one of the flagship programmes under the "EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community".

British Council has been delivering this programme on behalf of the European Commission since 2014/15. The call for the academic year of 2020/21 was launched on 13 January 2020 with applications accepted until 10 March 2020. Unfortunately, the selection process could not start due the outbreak of COVID-19 in mid-March.

There have been many candidates submitting applications for EU Scholarship Programme for the 2020/21 Call of the EU Scholarship Programme, and their patience is greatly appreciated with regards to the difficulties experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The European Commission is now happy to inform everyone that the 2020/21 Call will proceed. The selection process will soon be initiated by administering the written tests on 1, 2 and 3 July 2020.

The British Council assures the test takers and those who will be involved in the written tests that strict safety measures will be taken to prevent any possibility of spread of COVID-19. All test takers and administrators are expected to follow these measures for all sessions.

Below are a few examples of the measures that will be taken to ensure that the written tests are delivered safely:

• The written tests will be delivered in small sessions with a few candidates in the test rooms.

- All invigilators and administration personnel will be given COVID-19 specific training to ensure the health and safety of all test takers.
- The test venue and each test room will be cleaned and disinfected before and after each test session.
- Two entrances will be used at the test venue and will divide candidates into two groups to ensure that there will be no crowding.
- The temperature of candidates will be taken at the entrance with noncontact thermometers.
- Candidates will be asked to arrive at the venue earlier so that there will be adequate time to manage the registration and seating arrangement in the test rooms.
- COVID-19 related posters and signage will be displayed throughout the test venue to remind everyone about wearing their mask, sanitising their hands etc.
- Social distancing stickers will be placed on the floor to indicate the required 2-meter distancing at the waiting and registration areas.

Good Luck to all test takers!

For more information, please visit www.abburs.eu.

Online Activities in June and July

European Sustainable Energy Week

Energy Efficiency Webinar

How can we contribute to the family budget, economy and the protection of our environment by using energy efficiently?

24 June 18:30 - 20:00 @ Zoom & Facebook Live

Online Education Series for Children Let's Learn Energy Efficiency

29 June - 11 July @ EUIP Facebook Page

European Green Deal Campaign

EU Action Against Forest Fires & Policies for Prevention

Follow our <u>Facebook</u> page for up to date information!

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.

Any Questions? Ask Us!











This Project is funded by the European Union.

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