

# European Citizens' Panel on Learning Mobility

## Session 3 – Summary Report

28/04 – 30/04/2023



European Citizens Panel  
**learning  
mobility**  
**Have Your Say**

**#LearningMobilityEU**



## 1. Overview

The European Citizens' Panel on Learning Mobility consists of 150 randomly selected citizens and meets for three sessions. During the first session, the citizens identified a total of 36 challenges and obstacles standing in the way of inclusive learning mobility in Europe and deserving the Commission's attention. In the second session, they worked on formulating solutions to overcome those challenges and barriers. Based on experts' inputs and group discussions, they developed 45 ideas that served as intermediary outputs ("draft recommendations") that were to be finalized in the following session. Prior to the third session, these draft recommendations were clustered around similar topics (e.g., language learning, information and awareness, encouraging companies and employees) and attributed to the 12 working groups. At the same time, written feedback by experts and resource persons was provided on each recommendation. During the third and final session, the citizens then integrated the feedback from experts and other working groups, merged similar ideas and finalized the recommendations. To conclude the session, citizens expressed their degree of agreement with each recommendation in a final assessment procedure in the plenary.

### Day 1 (Friday)

On Friday, all citizens were welcomed back to the Panel by the main moderators, by Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights **Nicolas Schmit**, and **Sophia Eriksson Waterschoot**, Director for Youth, Education and Erasmus+ at the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport, and Culture (DG EAC). Following the welcoming speeches, **Mantas Pupinis**, Research Director at PPMI and member of the Knowledge Committee (KC), provided insights into the work of the KC between the second and third sessions. During the ensuing break, citizens were invited to prioritise sectors of learning mobility and policy topics discussed by the panel. They did so through a "live bar charts" exercise, in which they distributed "budget units" between thirteen categories indicating which learning mobility areas should receive more funding. After the break, citizens were divided in two sub-plenaries. In each sub-plenary, the working groups received feedback from four experts on the draft recommendations that were attributed to them. In their contribution, experts highlighted avenues for improving citizens' draft recommendations and answered citizens' questions. At the end of the day, citizens gathered in the plenary again to summarise the main points that arose in the sub-plenaries and discuss the results of the live bar charts exercise, as a basis for group work on Saturday.

### Day 2 (Saturday)

On Saturday, citizens were divided into the same working groups as in the two previous sessions. Just like before, discussions in working groups were facilitated by experienced moderators and enabled by simultaneous interpretation. Throughout the day, each working group worked on a number of draft recommendations formulated in the second session and attributed to them. They were asked to merge similar recommendations and integrate expert feedback to elaborate relevant recommendations. To support this process, each group received the visit of other citizens to gain insights into the recommendations drafted by other groups. Additionally, during the afternoon, experts visited the working groups who deemed it necessary, to answer questions or resolve doubts hampering the finalisation of recommendations. Towards the end of the day, facilitators played a crucial role in ensuring that recommendations were finalized and supported by a broad consensus in their group.

### Day 3 (Sunday)

On the last day of the panel, all **21 recommendations finalized on Saturday** were presented to the plenary by working groups' representatives and subsequently voted on by all citizens of the panel. The voting procedure was segmented in three phases, each following the same pattern. First, four groups' speakers read their recommendations aloud, justified their relevance and answered other citizens' questions. Then, all citizens were asked to express their support for each recommendation on a scale ranging from 1 ("I strongly oppose") to 6 ("I strongly support") on a paper ballot. This procedure was

repeated twice until all recommendations were presented and voted on. Once all votes were counted and results revealed by the main moderators, **Pia Ahrenkilde-Hansen**, Director-General from the Directorate-General for Communication, **Colin Scicluna**, Head of Cabinet of Vice-President Dubravka Šuica, and **Ute Haller-Block**, Head of Unit within the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, were given the floor to explain how the Commission will engage with the citizens' recommendations. Finally, citizens were invited to share their feedback on the whole process.

## 2. Results

The Panel produced 21 final recommendations and assessed them with a rating scale (from 1 to 6), which yielded an arithmetic mean ("level of support") and an "approval rate", i.e., the share of votes between 4 ("I somewhat support") and 6 ("I strongly support"), for each recommendation. In the following, the recommendations (with titles only) are ordered according to their level of support.

| No. | Title of the recommendation                                                                       | Level of support | Approval rate | Votes |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------|
| 16  | Information on worker mobility in Europe                                                          | 5,11             | 95%           | 132   |
| 12  | Mentors for a better welcome in the destination country                                           | 4,99             | 93%           | 132   |
| 17  | Targeted information campaigns on learning mobility                                               | 4,99             | 92%           | 132   |
| 21  | Promotion of a targeted communication strategy for Erasmus+                                       | 4,98             | 89%           | 132   |
| 1   | A vehicular language (lingua franca) as a tool for learning mobility                              | 4,97             | 86%           | 133   |
| 8   | Advertise and promote language programmes                                                         | 4,92             | 92%           | 131   |
| 11  | Ambassadors for a more mobile Europe                                                              | 4,92             | 88%           | 131   |
| 9   | Deployment and adaptation of Erasmus+ information centres and services                            | 4,89             | 94%           | 133   |
| 15  | Financial support for the professional development of employees                                   | 4,87             | 89%           | 131   |
| 3   | Expansion of existing learning mobility programs for people of all ages and socio-economic layers | 4,84             | 88%           | 129   |
| 14  | Recognise the role of educators in learning mobility!                                             | 4,79             | 84%           | 130   |
| 2   | Living multilingually in Europe                                                                   | 4,78             | 90%           | 133   |
| 4   | Promoting deeper integration of the vocational training sector across the EU                      | 4,76             | 89%           | 132   |
| 6   | EU programme to promote hybrid models of learning mobility for employees                          | 4,75             | 84%           | 134   |
| 20  | Assessing the administrative barriers faced by employees and employers and how to overcome them   | 4,75             | 87%           | 133   |
| 10  | Assuring tailored financial support for all people going on learning mobility                     | 4,69             | 82%           | 131   |
| 19  | Overcoming prejudices by encouraging a more balanced distribution of Erasmus+ placements          | 4,56             | 83%           | 132   |
| 13  | For greener learning mobility!                                                                    | 4,46             | 76%           | 131   |
| 18  | Measures and activities to promote non-discrimination in learning mobility                        | 4,42             | 75%           | 130   |
| 7   | Improving language learning through new technologies                                              | 4,37             | 74%           | 133   |
| 5   | Enabling learning mobility for families                                                           | 3,87             | 60%           | 134   |

### 3. List of experts involved

Throughout the third session, the following experts acted as speakers in the two sub-plenaries (on day 1), in which they provided valuable inputs on citizens' draft recommendations. Moreover, they participated as members of the Knowledge and Information Centre (KIC), in which they answered citizens' questions during the working groups (on day 2).

- **Kostis Giannidis**, former President, Erasmus Student Network
- **Marta Gutierrez Benet**, Head of Sector, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
- **Ute Haller-Block**, Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
- **Juliette Ibarondo Lasa**, European Federation for Intercultural Learning
- **Fabienne Metayer**, Head of Sector, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
- **Davide Muraro**, European Association for the Education of Adults
- **Mantas Pupinis**, Research Director at PPMI and Project Manager of the 'Study on supporting learning mobility: progress, obstacles and the way forward'
- **Mika Saarinen**, Director, Finnish National Agency for Erasmus+ (EDUFI)
- **Beatriz Tourón Torrado**, Ministry of Universities, Spanish National Agency for Erasmus+ (SEPIE)

### 4. Short agenda

|                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> April</b>   | <b>Plenary</b>                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 14:00 – 14:15                          | <b>Welcoming words and presentation of the session</b>                                                                                                                                 |
| 14:15 – 14:35                          | Reflections by <b>Commissioner Nicolas Schmit</b> (Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion) and <b>Sophia Eriksson Waterschoot</b> (Director, DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture) |
| 14:35 – 15:15                          | <b>Introduction: From Session 2 to Session 3</b>                                                                                                                                       |
| 15:15 – 15:45                          | <i>Coffee Break, "prioritisation" exercises and change of rooms</i>                                                                                                                    |
| 15:45 – 17:50                          | <b>Sub-plenaries: Q&amp;A with experts on draft recommendations</b> (separated in two "working blocks")                                                                                |
| 17:50 – 18:00                          | <i>Change of rooms</i>                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 18:00 – 18:30                          | <b>Key messages from sub-plenaries</b>                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> April</b> | <b>Working Groups</b>                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 9:30 – 11:15                           | <b>Session 1: Deliberation, drafting and review of recommendation 1</b>                                                                                                                |
| 11:15 – 11:45                          | <i>Coffee Break</i>                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 11:45 – 13:00                          | <b>Session 2: Deliberation, drafting and review of recommendation 2</b>                                                                                                                |
| 13:00 – 14:30                          | <i>Lunch Break</i>                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 14:30 – 16:00                          | <b>Session 3: Experts' inputs &amp; integration of feedback</b>                                                                                                                        |
| 16:00 – 16:30                          | <i>Coffee Break</i>                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 16:30 – 18:00                          | <b>Session 4: Consolidation of recommendations</b>                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> April</b>   | <b>Plenary</b>                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 09:30 – 09:40                          | <b>Welcome back</b>                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 09:40 – 10:15                          | <b>Presentation and assessment of recommendations I (group 1-4)</b>                                                                                                                    |
| 10:15 – 10:50                          | <b>Presentation and assessment of recommendations II (group 5-8)</b>                                                                                                                   |
| 10:50 – 11:25                          | <b>Presentation and assessment of recommendations III (group 9-12)</b>                                                                                                                 |
| 11:25 – 12:00                          | <i>Coffee Break</i>                                                                                                                                                                    |

|               |                                                 |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 12:00 – 12:15 | <b>Feedback survey</b>                          |
| 12:15 – 12:30 | <b>Presentation of results</b>                  |
| 12:30 – 13:10 | <b>Ceremonial moments and official speeches</b> |
| 13:10 – 13:30 | <i>Farewell and family picture</i>              |

## 5. Recordings of the plenary sessions

- **Friday**, 28/04/2023, 14:00 – 18:30 CET, Plenary + Sub-plenary I (Gasperi room):  
<https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/european-citizens-panel-on-learning-mobility-session-3-gasp>
- **Friday**, 28/04/2023, 15:15 – 17:50 CET, Sub-plenary II (Jenkins room):  
<https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/european-citizens-panel-on-learning-mobility-session-3-gasp>
- **Sunday**, 30/04/2023, 9:30 – 13:30 CET, Final plenary (Gasperi room):  
<https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/european-citizens-panel-on-learning-mobility-session-3-230430>