

## INVITATION: EUROPEAN YOUTH WEEK 2021

THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN JULY IN SREMSKI KARLOVCI, SERBIA

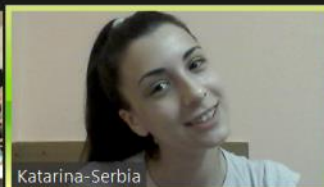


## NEW DIGITAL OFFER: KOLPING TALK

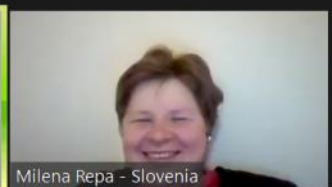
- NEWS FROM NATIONAL KOLPING SOCIETIES
- 5 WAYS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO CHANGE THE WORLD FROM THEIR HOME
- NEW ERASMUS +



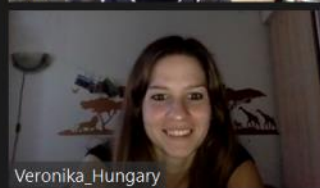
Heinz



Katarina-Serbia



Milena Repa - Slovenia



Veronika\_Hungary



Patrycja\_Kwapik



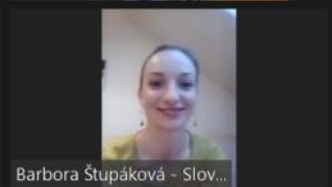
Marija Pugar



Sven Messing



Ezechukwu paulinus Kanu



Barbora Štupáková - Slov...



*Dear Readers,*

*Even though the pandemic lasts already for more than one year, there is hope that we can overcome the crisis in the next months: More and more people are getting vaccinated, and it seems to be possible that Europe can achieve herd immunity this summer. However, we still need to be careful right now to protect ourselves and the people around us.*

*As European youth organization, travel restrictions and social distancing measures directly affect our activities. In order to adapt to the new reality, the board of Kolping Youth Europe decided to develop a new digital offer: The Kolping Talk*

*aims to initiate an exchange about different topics and projects that are relevant for young Kolping members, and the first two events have already taken place in February and March. Additionally, Kolping Virtual Apéros are organized to offer an opportunity for young people from different countries to connect with each other in an informal atmosphere. This means, you can join an event of Kolping Youth Europe every month from wherever you are!*

*Even though it is great to stay in touch online, everyone is looking forward to the next meetings in person. In this newsletter, you can find more information about the next European Youth Week (in Serbia) and the next Membership Meeting (in Croatia). In case we cannot organize these events at the planned dates in 2021, they will be postponed to summer/autumn 2022.*

*I am looking forward to meeting you at our next Kolping Talk or Kolping Virtual Apéro!*

*Best regards,*

*Sven*

**The activities of Kolping Youth Europe are co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.**



**Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union**



## OUR NEW YOUTH ADVISOR



"Hi!

My name is Katarina and I'm currently living in Novi Sad, Serbia. After two years of volunteering in the Kolping Society of Serbia, I became a Youth Advisor of Kolping Youth Europe. I see this opportunity as a great way for personal growth and to contribute to the organization that helps me to become a more engaged young person. Right now, I am a student of pedagogy so I'm motivated to work with young people and share my ideas. So far I have participated in many of Kolping's projects and all of them helped me to see the world differently, to believe that young people

can bring some positive change in society and that effort and motivation are so important for future success! I am grateful that Kolping Youth Europe recognizes me as someone who can help them in their future activity and it's an honor to be part of this International organization. For me, Kolping is a synonym for productivity, inspiration, and great energy among people. I can say that I'm a talkative, ambitious, open-minded, person always trying to see the best in every situation and learn throughout the way. I'm more than excited about future work with great people and colleagues with experience."

## NEW DIGITAL OFFER: KOLPING TALK



More than 30 Kolping Youth members from all over the world took part in something completely new on February 25th. Namely, in order to adjust our activities to the pandemic due restrictions, Kolping Youth Europe decided to introduce a new digital offer called Kolping Talk. Through these online events we aim to initiate an exchange about different topics and projects. The idea is to invite interesting guests to share their experience and to discuss together with other Kolping members worldwide.

### 1ST KOLPING TALK: KOLPING YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA

On our very first Kolping Talk participants had the chance to learn more about Kolping Youth activities in Africa thanks to our special guests Alain Serge Baba (Kolping Cameroon), Paulinus Ezechukqu Kanu (Kolping Nigeria) and Elisabeth Adolf (Kolping Germany).

Alain Serge Baba introduced the participants to the history of Kolping Cameroon, their vision and mission and the goals they work towards today. The projects in Cameroon

focus on promoting education, the training of young people for the job market, agropastoralism and practical trades such as the dyeing of clothes and the manufacturing of soaps. Elisabeth Adolf from Germany shared her experience from a three weeks long youth workcamp in South Africa organized by the Kolping Youth Community Service. During this workcamp, the participants stayed at host families, supported a social project in a school and had the chance to see elephants. In the end, Paulinus Ezechukqu Kanu from Nigeria presented the work, goals and challenges they are currently facing. He emphasized that the training programmes of Kolping Nigeria aim to tackle the high rate of unemployment among young people and deal with fashion and design, media and computer, animal farming and various trades. After the presentations, the guests answered questions from the participants, e.g. about the role of the Kolping Youth within their Kolping Societies. The event ended with a networking session where participants could continue further discussion in small groups and get to know each other a little bit better.

We would like to thank everyone who participated, especially our guests for their interesting presentations!

### 2ND KOLPING TALK: TATICO – FAIR TRADE COFFEE FROM HONDURAS

On the 25th of March at 18:30 (CET) Kolping Youth Europe hosted its 2nd Kolping Talk with more than 30 participants from 13 different countries. Patrycja Kwapik and Magdalena Szczudło (Kolping Poland) were invited to share their experience from an international Erasmus+ project and talk about the topic "TATICO – Fair Trade Coffee from Honduras".

After Magdalena Szczudło opened the event and introduced participants to the topic, everybody was invited to watch a short movie about coffee producers in Honduras. The interesting movie with a lot of beautiful captures of nature and people from Honduras was a great base for a discussion. Participants had a chance to see how the concept of fair trade looks in practice. Everyone was split into several breakout rooms to discuss the movie and the advantages of fair trade. These discussions were highly interesting as the participants of the Kolping Talk came not only from European countries who are consumers of fair trade products, but also from countries who are producing them such as Honduras, Cameroon and Nigeria. Some of the benefits of fair trade that participants presented were those on the financial side, but the social impact as well because it helps with building social capacities for the families of the producers, e.g. with regards to the education of children. We compared how producers benefit from fair trade, and how it affects consumers. On the one hand, it gives many chances for producers to cooperate, but also

respects their hard work. On the other hand, consumers have to pay a higher price, but do something good for the local community of the producers and support their local economy. Magdalena Szczudło described this as a "win-win game, for both producers and consumers".

At the end of the Kolping Talk, Patrycja Kwapik presented the manual „Model of youth leaders development for fair economy and education”. It is a toolkit that collects all the best practices from the fair trade sector. It contains information about fair trade in general, but also about job opportunities in the fair trade sector and a classification of key competences and how to develop them.

The movie and the manual were developed as part of the international Erasmus+ project „COFFEE – cooperation for fair economy and education” which was implemented by Kolping Poland, Langen Kaffee (Germany), Kolping Romania, Kolping Mexico and Kolping Honduras.

*Grlica Golušin*

**INVITATION**

**The 3rd KOLPING TALK about "Kolping Youth Community Services" will take place online on Thursday, 27.05.2021 at 18.30 PM CET (Central European Time)**

We want to stay in touch with you and meet you on our future Kolping Talk. Stay tuned and visit our social media for updated information!

Are you interested in international youth meetings, workcamps and seminars? Join our next Kolping Talk and learn more about the Kolping Youth Community Services!

Kolping Youth Europe has invited Annette Fuchs, head of this organization, and Denise Wolff to present their offers for young people. After a short presentation, we will have time for questions and answers. At the end, we will do a networking session in breakout rooms.

The Kolping Talk starts at 18:30 CET and lasts for 90 minutes, the main language is English.

Everyone interested can register via email ([contact@kolpingyouthurope.com](mailto:contact@kolpingyouthurope.com)) or by attending the Facebook event.

Join our event on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/867553243800850>

## SAVE THE DATE

### EUROPEAN YOUTH WEEK

**Dear Friends, Kolping Youth members!**

We feel very excited to invite you to the next European Kolping Youth Week!

As many of you know, the European Youth Week is the main event of Kolping Youth Europe and the idea is that young people from Europe get in touch with each other, to learn together and spend quality time. This year, the host of the Youth Week will be Serbia, and the event will take place in **Sremski Karlovci (Novi Sad)** between the 19th and 25th of July!



Every Youth Week has its specific theme, and for the Youth Week 2021 we choose to concentrate on the **digital youth work**. The main topic of the Week is: **“Let’s get digital! – Innovation in the digital Youth Work!”**

Today, more than ever, digital work is crucial for working and learning as well, so we want our members to gain specific skills to deal with the challenges in the digital youth work and to adapt to the specific situation regarding the pandemic in the best possible way.

We are sure that all of us are missing hanging out with friends, so besides many lectures by the prestigious guest speakers, we organize leisure time, visits to Novi Sad, and sightseeing the beautiful city. Kolping Youth Week will be held in the Eco Center Radulovacki, in Sremski Karlovci, on the slopes of Fruska Gora and the banks of Danube.

#### REGISTRATION:

**Apply in cooperation with your National Society, because the amount of places per country is limited!**

The application forms as well as invitation card you can find on our website [kolpingyoutheurope.com](https://kolpingyoutheurope.com)

**Don’t start your travel planning before you receive a confirmation of your registration.**

For all other information, you can write us an email to

[contact@kolpingyoutheurope.com](mailto:contact@kolpingyoutheurope.com)

You are more than welcome to join us, and with the following and respecting of all the prescribed measures, to spend together wonderful week and make lasting memories.





### MEMBERSHIP MEETING

We hope that we can meet each other in person for our annual Membership Meeting which will be held in Croatia from 1.-3. October 2021.

Kolping Croatia invites us to the small city of Ludbreg which is located in the north of the country. As every year, two delegates from each national organization can take part and decide about the future of Kolping Youth Europe.

**Save this date!** The detailed information about the event will be available in the summer time on the website and sent to all National Societies in Europe.

We're looking forward to meeting you there!



## 5 WAYS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO CHANGE THE WORLD FROM THEIR HOME



For more than one year, the whole world is still in the same situation - prevented from functioning as before, for people to hug each other, to have a regular education, to breathe without masks... It seems that nothing is under our control. Young people especially feel unmotivated because they are prevented to live the best years of their lives the way they want to. For those who love to be active, to do some good stuff for society, it seems that there is no chance for it anymore. Pandemic has stopped many planned activities and, although everything seems uncertain and unpredictable, life cannot be stopped. Life always flows and gives us a second chance for things we truly want.

Through the time we mostly spend at home, thanks to the internet we still have plenty of chances to achieve our goals. Right from our home, we still can influence a better world. Here is some suggestion how we can spend our time quality, in a way that at the same time brings joy to us and others.

### ***1. Inspirational social media content***

The global atmosphere is full of fear and confusion. I think that it's an illusion that one person cannot make anything to change it. For example, YOU can create a page on social networks and share on it



some inspirational posts, some positive thoughts, and probably helps someone to feel better for a moment. We are much more powerful than we think, and everyone can change someone's day for the better, if not live - then using social media. You can use your social media channels to spread some positivity that is more than needed now. Don't underestimate the power of small action that almost invisibly changes the atmosphere for the better. Also, during we are mostly at home, maybe we have more time to learn new skills and gain more knowledge about topic we are interested in. Good thing is that most of them can be found on the internet. When we learn something new or have something worthy to share with others, we can use platforms like blogs or youtube to write down or record our experiences that can be useful to others. Sharing is caring, so let's share with others our skills, talents, and light up someone's day during these difficult times.

## 2. Support small producers

Since many of the stores of big fashion brands are closed, wouldn't it be nice to think about our consumer habits? Fashion is one of the industries that make most of the pollution, and big fashion brands refused to produce less, even if most of the clothes are not a necessity for humans. In parallel with that, I'm sure that most of us know someone in our environment who struggles to sell his/her products. Local producers often spend much more time to produce something,

they give their whole time and love to finish some products and buying from them can be helpful because of many reasons. If we buy local, we support people who are "one of us", we give support to the local economy and don't participate in the pollution of the planet. When we need something for us, our home or a gift for someone (from food, clothes, and many other creative stuff) first, we can look into our environment or google local brands and craftsmen. And of course give them support on social media! ;)

## 3. Help those in need

This time is important for learning to take care of others. One of the things we can do for those in need is to ask them how we can help. For example, we can help our older neighbors by bringing them food from stores, or we can help kids who have challenges with online classes. Also, we can be part, or even initiators of actions for collecting money for humanitarian purposes. Together with your group of Kolping Youth, you can organize many activities that is helpful to others. Start with trying to identify what is most needed in your environment and then divide responsibilities according to your abilities, and if possible use online platforms and adapt to epidemiological measures.

Also, one of the ideas is to get rid of unnecessary things after tidying up the house by donating them to someone who needs it. We can also sell them for humanitarian purposes and give the collected money where it is most needed.

## 5 WAYS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO CHANGE THE WORLD FROM THEIR HOME

Another idea of how to help others around us can apply to animals. Whenever we have leftover food, we can take it to dogs that are in our area. We can leave dishes with water in front of our house, especially when the weather is warmer, and in that way think about the health of stray pets.

### 4. *Be on the side of nature*

We are all witnessing how much nature can recover when people get out of its way. As prevention for these scenarios, we can use small steps and choices to connect with nature in a more significant way. We can plant flowers, make a small nature corner in our house or flat. If we have a garden, we can try to spend more time planting flowers and maybe planting vegetables to eat. It is perfect for us to get to know the whole process of vegetable production, as well as to eat healthier food and provide fresh air. Also, as part of helping nature, we can stick a reminder above the door that will remind us to always carry a bag when we go to the supermarket and not to use plastic one. Our choice may be to use more products from wood, glass and paper or other biodegradable materials and on that way don't participate in nature pollution. Also, when going somewhere, do not use the vehicle unless necessary. Interestingly, what is good for nature is good for us at the same time.

And everything we do for nature, we actually do for ourselves, because nature gives us back many times over all the goods we do for her.

### 5. *Work on yourself*

Last but not least – joining webinars or some online courses gives you an opportunity to become a better and more productive person. And by making the most of yourself, the world is already a better place! So, read a lot, watch educational movies and invest in yourself in all possible ways. Kolping Youth Europe organizes online events such as Kolping Talks or Kolping Virtual Apéros. These are nice opportunities for young people to get in touch with their peers from abroad and also to learn about other countries and cultures. Only one part of the world we can always change, and that part is we ourselves. Don't forget - knowledge is power! And use your power in the best possible way.

Life keeps telling us that sometimes change is all we have. We must relearn to answer to different situations in the best possible way, and to keep listening to what life is trying to teach us, because, as our founder says "the needs of the time will teach us what to do." And it is up to us to act in accordance with those needs.

*Katarina Jeremić*

## NEWS FROM NATIONAL KOLPING SOCIETIES



## SLOVAKIA

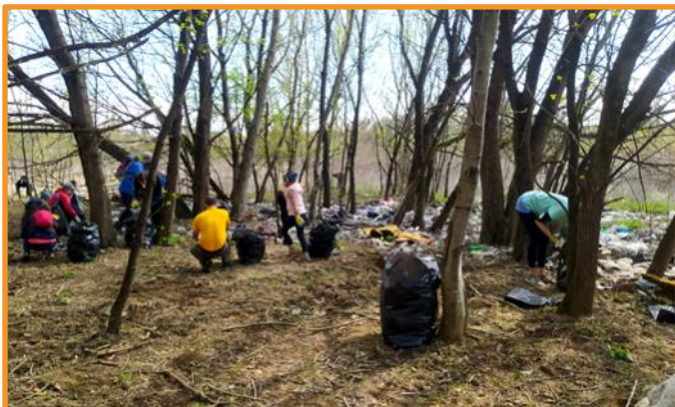
## Kolping Košice Trash-Man action

It's spring again. Yay!!! Sun, fresh green leaves, flowers aaand TRASH all over that lovely greenery. It's sad just to look at what a disaster can human done to nature.

No! we can't leave it like that, so Kolping Košice's youth gathers together and in cooperation with Trash Heroes Košice movement organized a public trash picking in most polluted areas or places that were not cleaned for decades. Around 100 people, individuals, or whole families gave a hand and done a miraculous cleaning in some areas. After a whole year of corona isolation, we pretty enjoyed the company of good people who gather together to show what is right and how all humans need to treat nature. A beer and goulash were just icing on the cake after this great action.

Successful or not, dealing with trash is a neverending story and it's a real fight against a beast that can one day swallow us. In this manner everybody can be a Heroe, just try it. Next time you see trash pick it up, kill that monster and save our planet! You bet we will do so.

*Dominik Presul*





## NEWS FROM NATIONAL KOLPING SOCIETIES

Opportunities  
for young people  
and  
entrepreneurship  
activities

### UKRAINE

#### Youth and career choice in Germany and in Ukraine



In autumn 2020 the Kolping Youth Ukraine and the Kolping Youth Bamberg implemented a joint project on the subject of "World of work". The aim of the project was to strengthen the understanding between German and Ukrainian nations. The main topic "Youth and career choice" was used to discuss similarities and differences between the two countries: everyday life, education, society, and politics played a role here. We were also interested in the cross-generational perspective on the topic.

German and Ukrainian young adults reflected on their behavior with regard to the topic of career choice in Ukraine and Germany, so they had a hook for discussion within the workshop. In this way, similarities and differences between the two countries in dealing with the topic were compared.

Within Kolping, the collaboration between different generations, between the Kolping Society and the Kolping Youth, is formative. Our aim was to use short interview sessions with persons of the same age as well as with the generation of parents and grandparents to learn more about career choices: Are there differences between "then" and "today" in Germany and Ukraine?

As a result of the project will be made a short video with the German and Ukrainian Interviews.

*Galyna Ieromina*

## SERBIA

### Young people in the eyes of ZOOM employer

Kolping Youth from Serbia, on 24th March, organized a panel discussion about the employment of young people in Serbia. The event took place on Zoom and was called "You in the eyes of (Zoom) employer". Youth people detected that they have problem with choosing the right job after college, they have lack of knowledge about writing a CV and have no experience or knowledge about how to behave on the first job interview. Because of that, we organized a discussion with two HR with experience in working with young people and PR from a platform that deals with job advertisement. More than thirty young people had an opportunity to ask them about the current situation and how pandemic affected the recruitment process, which positions are less wanted because of that. Discussion, although it took place on Zoom, was very interactive and dynamic and people were very involved with their questions. They heard useful advice and tips for future job search. We recognize that pandemic made young people less motivated about searching for an adequate job position and we wanted to allow them to share their concerns and get answers they need to start the process of job search even in the difficult global time. We wanted for them to believe in themselves and their possibilities, and to strengthen them to gain more knowledge on some technical aspects such as CV writing and job interviewing.

*Katarina Jeremić*



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## NEWS FROM NATIONAL KOLPING SOCIETIES

### POLAND

#### Social skills as the way to success in the labour market

Currently, Kolping Society in Poland is implementing activities dedicated to over 500 young people age 15-29 years old to develop their social skills and strengthen their position during the education period and on the labor market in the future.

The main goal of activities is to develop the social skills of young people as for example teamwork, interacting with others, working out a compromise, motivating and persuading others, public speaking, or intercultural education. All that skills are very important in everyday life and also in the work.

We prepared for the participants the individual support of psychologists, career counselors, and several workshops and lectures about group work, interpersonal communication, leadership, and social engagement. The development of social skills is not easy, because you can't learn that from the book, you have to practice by completing tasks in groups led by professionals.

Kolping offered to every young people to participate in volunteering activities in many areas, depending on their predispositions and interests. Personal contact with people in need, taking care of poor animals, cleaning the green areas in the neighborhood, or preparing gifts for sick people there are only a few examples of activities that change the lives of young volunteers forever.

The pandemic moved a few of our activities to the virtual world, but didn't stop us!

From April 2019 until December 2020 in our projects were engaged 371 young people, 304 participated already in the workshops and 200 took part in volunteering activities.

We believe, that few of our participants will stay in touch with Kolping Society and our Kolping Families engaged in project implementation, but we are sure, that new experiences will help them in a future life, in taking brave decisions, making new contacts, and friendships, and sensitize them to the needs of others people living around.

*Patrycja Kwapik*







## ROMANIA

### Professional success starts in childhood

Educational Center in Oituz started in September 2020 the cooperation with Moldavian Csángós - the Hungarian speaking linguistic minority in North-Eastern Romania - in the framework of a common cultural and educational project.

Kolping provided the project with accommodation for educators and space for activities. A group of 15 local children enjoys there a hot meal every day, educational activities, musical instruments, and lessons for learning the Hungarian language.

The main challenge for teachers was to teach Hungarian, which is no mother tongue of children. This special educational situation required the ingenuity of the teachers. We thought a lot about how to start, with what methods and tools and what to teach children. Above all, we considered that games are important so that children love to come to us and at the same time not to notice that they come to learn. The teachers believe, that experiential games also help to develop language.

The educator Antal Réka said:

*Children come to the Kolping Centre in Oituz from different families, but one thing is sure: Kolping is one of the places that offer them safety. They come here in a warm place, they receive food and in addition to all this, we obviously try to come up with activities that will help them develop their personality. I think there is a great need for this to learn the basics. And here I really think about the simplest things: handwashing, hygiene, forms of greetings, the basic rules of existence in a community.*

The activities for young people start by Kolping in early childhood. This is the best way to build a friendly community around them and support the educational and social development of young people, which will help them in the future!

Source: <https://kor.kolping.ro/oituz-centrul-educational-kolping-sprijina-diversitatea-culturala/>

## NEW ERASMUS +



### GREAT CHANCE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS!

The new 2021-2027 Erasmus+ programme has been launched. The first annual work programme and the 2021 call have also been published. The Erasmus+ programme budget for 2021-2027 is €26.2 billion, compared with €14.7 billion for 2014-2020. **Erasmus+ will be more inclusive, more digital, and greener with this increased budget.**

**What that all mean for Kolping Youth? How the young people can participate and use the Erasmus + programme for their personal development and strengthening of their organisations?**

Erasmus + programs offer financial support for organisations responsible for formal education (like schools, universities) and also for non-formal education which is dedicated among others to nongovernmental organisations (NGO's) like Kolping Societies.

*Patrycja Kwapik*

## Let's focus on youth

### Which activities can be supported?

As a young person/member of a youth organisation/member of an informal group of young people, you can apply for a youth exchange.

### Overview

**Youth exchanges** allow groups of young people from different countries to meet, live together, and work on shared projects for short periods. On a youth exchange, you can expect to participate in activities such as workshops, exercises, debates, role-plays, outdoor activities, and more. Youth exchanges last between 5 and 21 days. This excludes traveling time.

### Conditions

Youth exchanges are open to people between the ages of 13 and 30. To be a group leader in a youth exchange, you must be at least 18 years old.

Youth exchanges are managed by youth organisations, informal groups of young people, or other organisations.

### Financial support

The EU grant supports travel as well as practical and activity-related costs necessary for the exchange.

### How to apply

To participate in a youth exchange, you cannot apply directly for a grant as an individual. Applications must be made by an organisation or a group of young people who in turn select who will participate in the exchange.

More experienced organisations can apply for

activities for youth workers (no age limit), build strategic partnerships with NGO's from another country, or organize the youth initiatives on the national or international level.

### Are you interested?

Here you can find the National Agency in your country: [https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/contact/national-agencies\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/contact/national-agencies_en)

Find a while to visit their website, register for an event or workshop, where you can find more information about the program and address specific questions regarding your organization.

### Your country is not a member of the European Union or you are not a program country of Erasmus +?

Don't worry! In this case, your organisation can't apply for a project, but you can be a partner of an entity registered in programme country. The activities can also be held in your country, you will also visit your partners and join their activities.

### Are you not ready to write your own project?

You can join the project led by another organisation as a partner organisation. Another NGO - the coordinator will be responsible for applying and management of the project. But remember – you should support every step of preparation and implementation of the project. Only then you can be an active participant, develop your skills, and learn how to organise successful activities!

### Do you need more information and support from Kolping Youth Europe?

The Kolping Youth Europe will apply for the youth exchanges and other activities. Your Kolping Society can be our partner. Do you have any ideas for the activities and topics interesting for young people? Do you have any questions?

**CONTACT US:** [CONTACT@KOLPINGYOUTHEUROPE.COM](mailto:CONTACT@KOLPINGYOUTHEUROPE.COM)

We will discuss with you the project idea, invite you to our project or connect you with potential partners from Kolping Youth groups in other European countries.

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ERASMUS +**

[HTTPS://EC.EUROPA.EU/PROGRAMMES/ERASMUS-PLUS](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus)



# Kolping Youth Europe



**KOLPINGJUGEND EUROPA E.V.**  
Kolpingplatz 5-11, 50667 Köln / Cologne  
Deutschland / Germany  
E-mail: [contact@kolpingyouth europe.com](mailto:contact@kolpingyouth europe.com)

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