



SUMMER ACADEMY

Assembly of European Regions

A Europe for the Next Generation

29 August – 1st September 2022

PROGRAMME

CLÁR

Co Hosted By:



Údarás na Gaeltachta



Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council

Venue Partners:



Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh
Atlantic Technological University



Monday, 29 August

09.30 – 18.00

**Arrivals - Hotels
(Letterkenny):**

- Station House Hotel & Radisson Blu Hotel (adult tickets)
- Ballyraine Self Catering Apartments (youth tickets)

18.00 – 20.00

**Summer Academy Organising
Committee (SAOC) Meeting**

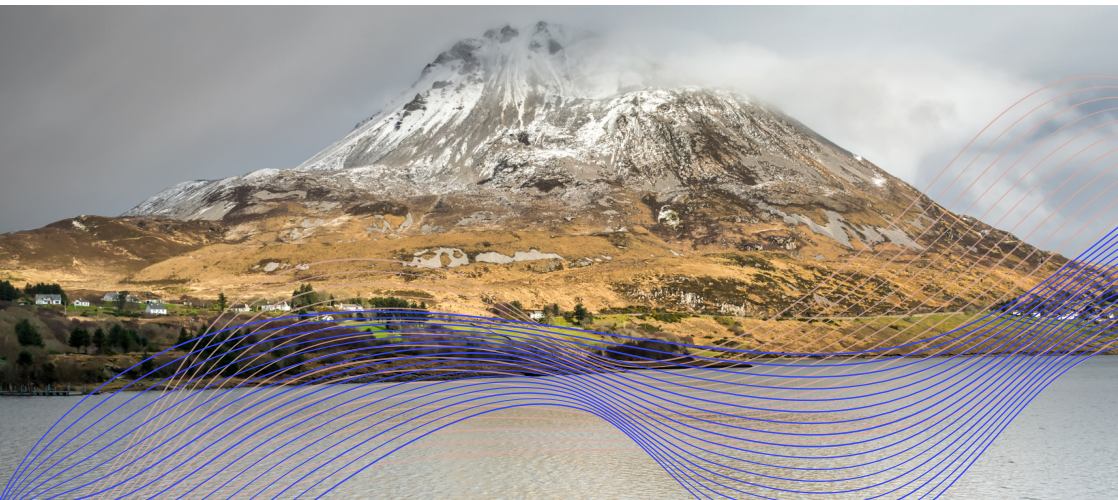
(Only for SAOC members)

20.00 – 22.00

**Welcome Reception
Venue: Radisson Hotel Letterkenny**

Guest speaker:

- **Maria Walsh**, MEP for Midlands-North West, Member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and of the Committee on Culture and Education at the European Parliament.



Tuesday, 30 August

Venue: Atlantic Technological University,
Port Road, Gortlee, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

09.00 – 09.30 Registration

09.30-11.00

Opening Ceremony - Room 1101

Speakers:

- **Cllr. Liam Blaney**, Cathaoirleach, Donegal County Council (Host region)
- **Micheál Ó hÉanaigh**, AER Vice President for Youth; CEO, Údarás Na Gaeltachta (Host Region)
- **Andreas Kiefer**, Secretary General of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

High level roundtable discussion:

- **Anna Ní Ghallachair**, Chairperson of Údarás na Gaeltachta Board
- **John McLaughlin**, Chief Executive, Donegal County Council
- **Jenny Evjen**, Acting President of AER Summer Academy
- **Natasha O' Hea**, Community Manager, Catalyst
- **Dr. Orla Flynn**, President of the Atlantic Technological University (ATU)

11.00 – 11:30 Group Picture & Coffee Break

11.30 – 12.55

1st Plenary Session:

Youth and regional Government: young people (re)shaping their regions - Room 1101

Speakers:

- **Ingvild Søreide**, Youth delegate, Viken region (NO)
- **Ingvild Brox Kielland**, SpareBank1, Nord-Norg
- **Leonard Wilks**, Youth Delegate, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- **Noel Mac Suibhne**, Youth Officer, Muintearas (IE)
- **Mihaela Lite**, Superior Councillor, Maramures County Council (RO)
- **Erin Gallagher**, Donegal Youth Council (IE)
- **Joe McHugh TD**, Chair of the Oireachtas Committee on European Affairs

12.55 – 13.45 Lunch

13.45 – 14.45

Parallel workshops

1. How to involve young people in the decision-making process at regional level - the Norwegian blueprint - Viken (NO) - Room number: 1102

Viken (NO) will share the Norwegian model for regional youth participation - what is good and meaningful in the decision-making process.

Speakers:

- **Antonio Gade Wilhelmsen Serri**, Head of the Youth County Council, Viken Municipality
 - **Ingvild Søreide**, Member of Youth County Council, Hole municipality
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2. Future of Skills: Youth and the Tourism of Tomorrow – Donegal County Council (IE) and Fáilte Ireland - Room number: 1104

Covid-19 has led to a major shortage of skilled young people taking up roles in the tourism industry. This workshop will focus on challenges and opportunities to encourage young people to lead the tourism industry of the future.

Speakers:

- **Michael Quinn**, Communications Manager, Tourism Careers & Sector Development, Fáilte Ireland
 - **Nicola Dunnion**, ATU School of Tourism
-

14.45 – 18.00

Derry / Londonderry City Tour

15:15 - Meeting point: Tourist Office Derry City

16:15 - Speeches at Guildhall

- **Paddy Harte**, Chairman of the International Fund for Ireland
- **Cllr Sandra Duffy**, Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council

Derry City is home to Ireland's only completely Walled City. Delegates will enjoy a guided tour of the 400-year-old City Walls, a walk along the Peace Bridge and a visit to the Guildhall built in 1887. Since its launch in 2011 the EU Interreg funded Peace Bridge has become an integral part of the City's infrastructure. The bridge tells a story of triumph over adversity and is a symbol of peace, connecting the two sides of the River Foyle.

18:15 - 19.15 Buffet dinner & free time

21.00 Return buses to Letterkenny - Meeting point: Tourist Office, Derry City

Wednesday, 31 August

Venue: Atlantic Technological University,
Port Road, Gortlee, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

09.00 – 09.30. Sign-up & Energizers

09.30 - 10.30

Parallel workshops

1.Maramures stands with #Ukraine – Youth involvement in supporting refugees – Maramures (RO) & ATU present the ‘Enter to Transform’ project focused on refugee entrepreneurship in NW Europe - Room number: 1104

Maramures in Romania has been on the frontline of the refugee crisis caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. This will be a chance for participants to learn how young people in the community have led in the reception of incoming refugees, and identify common challenges and opportunities.

Speakers:

- **Mihaela Lițe**, Superior Councillor, International Relations Office, Maramures County Council, Maramures County Council
- **Dr. Pdraig Gallagher**, Head of Research and Innovation, Atlantic Technological University (ATU)
- **Juanita Blue**, European Project Manager, Atlantic Technological University

2.Digital Hubs, Creativity and Innovation – Údarás na Gaeltachta (IE) - Room number: 1102

Brain-drain of talented young people and would-be entrepreneurs from rural areas is a challenge for all rural regions. Led by Údarás na Gaeltachta, this workshop will focus on how through setting up remote working “Gteic” hubs across the Gaeltacht regions of Ireland, remote regions can keep and attract talent and develop innovation ecosystems.

Speakers:

- **Prof. Finbarr Bradley** Former professor UCD/Visiting professor Aalto University, Finland
- **Mairead Ní Maonaigh** (Artist in residence UnG)
- **Anne Marie Conlon** (Head of Economic Development, Donegal County Council)
- **Mary McKenna**, MBE, Co-founder of AwakenHub
- **Sineád Ní Fhátharta** (Head of Enterprise, Údarás na Gaeltachta)

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 - 12.15 **2nd Plenary Session: AER Bureau Debate on Youth - Room number: 1101**

The European Year of Youth provides a unique opportunity for European regions to identify ways of better supporting youth participation and autonomy and of realising the benefits that more opportunities for young people offer to regional recovery and sustainable, inclusive, green and digital transition. This plenary will discuss the work of the AER Task Force on Youth, as well as what the focus of youth policy should be in Europe. Specific topics discussed will be: the future of EU youth policy, youth involvement in policy-making across Europe, programmes and best practices at the regional level and the importance of local and regional governments in youth policy.

Key-note: **Colin Scicluna** (video message) - Head of Cabinet, Commissioner Šuica, Vice President Democracy and Demography

Speakers:

- **Anne Karjalainen**, Chair of the Commission for Social Policy, Education, Employment, Research and Culture (SEDEC) and Chair of Kerava City Council – European Committee of the Regions
- **Chougher Maria Doughramajian**, Member of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe
- **Thomas Matthew**, Board member, European Youth Forum
- **Christian Spahr**, Secretary General, Assembly of European Regions
- **Micheál Ó hÉanaigh**, AER Vice President for Youth

12.30 – 13.30

Parallel workshops

**1. Workshop led by Vojvodina (SRB) – Host of 2019 Summer Academy -
Room number: 1102**

Speakers:

- **Nemanja Zavisic**, Vice-President, Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, Serbia
- **Marko Blazic**, Student at Novi Sad Medical University, Pharmacology Department

2. Joint Info Session Eurodyssey - AER & Catalunya

Room number: 1104

Information session and Q&A about Eurodyssey, the flagship international mobility programme of AER, providing young people with fully-funded traineeship opportunities in the participating regions.

Speakers:

- **Esther Estany Campos**, President of Eurodyssey
- **Adriana Andrés Comas**, International Programmes Unit, Generalitat de Catalunya
- **Lorène Weber**, Programmes Coordinator, AER

13.30 – 14.30 Lunch

14.30 - 17.30 Visit to Glenveagh National Park

This excursion will take delegates to Glenveagh National Park, highlighting the role of local authorities in enhancing biodiversity and developing sustainable tourism. Glenveagh National Park is a remote and hauntingly beautiful wilderness of rugged mountains, pristine lakes, tumbling waterfalls and enchanted native oak woodland in the heart of the Derryveagh Mountains.

At the centre of the Park on the edge of Lough Veagh is historic Glenveagh Castle, a late 19th-century castellated mansion, built as a hunting lodge. Explore the stunning gardens or stroll along the many paths and trails. Spanning approximately 16,000 hectares, Glenveagh has a broad mosaic of habitat types including uplands, woodlands, peatland, freshwater rivers, and lakes. Delegates will learn about the outdoor and nature conservation work at Glenveagh and enjoy an audio-visual tour and talk at the visitor centre, followed by a walk along Lough Veagh to the Castle.

Meeting Point: ATU Campus

18.30 (Approx.) Return to Letterkenny (Free evening for delegates)

Thursday, 1 September

Pick-up from hotels and hostels in Letterkenny at 7:45

Venue: gteic Gaoth Dobhair

9.00 - 10.00 Working breakfast - Task Force on Youth

For other participants: Breakfast + Sign-up & Energizers

10.00 – 11.00

Parallel workshops

1. Strengthening entrepreneurship among young people - Nordland (NO)

Workshop discussing the youth entrepreneurship programme Samfunnsløftet driven by Sparebanken NordNorge (bank of Northern Norway).

Samfunnsløftet connects youth voices on projects related to one of the strategic areas identified for society in Northern Norway: Ocean, Health infrastructure, Space technology, Energy. Young people are invited to take part in a five-step process, are challenged to contribute to one of the region's strategic areas for the future, and to meet some of the foremost stakeholders in these fields, whether in terms of innovation, technology or development.

Speakers:

- **Ingvild Brox Kielland**, SpareBank1 Nord-Norge
- **Anette Amalie Åbodsvik Bang**, County Councillor, Nordland Region.

2. AER Workshop—Bioeconomy&Skills [food systems/waste management]

The bioeconomy covers all sectors that rely on biological resources such as food, construction, energy and waste management. In the context of societal challenges such as climate change, food security, energy independence and environmental sustainability, the bioeconomy is deemed to generate solutions for a better use of resources, life-cycle management and the development of new materials. Because the industries, the value chains, the collaborations between stakeholders are new, there are major challenges both to develop the right skills and to attract & retain skills in the industry. This workshop will look at food and food production for the future, with sustainability and security as the tagline, and a key focus on young voices.

Speakers:

- **Aud Hove**, Deputy Mayor of Innlandet, Chair of AER Bioeconomy Working Group
- **Vivian Stribos**, EU Lobbyist for Gelderland (NL)
- **Dr. Fiona Doohan**, School of Biology and Environmental Science, College of Life Sciences, University College Dublin
- **Gjertrud Nordal**, youth representative, Innlandet (NO)
- **Sigrun Myrvang**, youth representative, Innlandet (NO)
- **Freek Beijer**, youth delegate, Gelderland (NL)

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee break

11.30-12.30 Guided tour of gteic Gaoth Dobhair

Host region Údarás na Gaeltachta will showcase its 'gteic' rural innovation hubs for delegates, a model of how to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship in rural regions.

Facilitators:

- **Micheál Ó hÉanaigh**, AER Vice President for Youth
- **Sinéad Ní Ghallachóir**, gteic



12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.45 -15.00 Consolidation session - Conclusions from the workshops

Venue: Amharclann Ghaoth Dobhair

Opening by:

- **Christian Spahr**, AER Secretary General
- **Jenny Evjen**, Acting President of AER Summer Academy.

Facilitator of the consolidation session:

- **Christian Spahr**, AER Secretary General

Presenters will share the main results from the 8 workshop sessions.

15.00 - 17.30

Closing Ceremony Closing & Award Ceremony

Venue: Amharclann Ghaoth Dobhair

Guest speaker:

- **Jack Chambers**, Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach with special responsibility as Government Chief Whip and at the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media with special responsibility for the Gaeltacht and sport.

Participants will also be treated to a session of Irish music by artist in residence, **Mairead Ni Maonaigh**.

18.30 Farewell Dinner

Venue: An Cuirt Hotel (Gaath Dobhair) - Showcase of Irish dancing.

22.00 Return buses to Letterkenny

Friday, 2 September

Departures

Shuttle buses back to Airports (Donegal or Dublin)*

*Airport transfer will be organised by Donegal County Council according to the data provided in your registration form

NOTES



SUMMER ACADEMY

Assembly of European Regions



Summer Academy Organising Committee:



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council



DONEGAL
IRELAND'S DNA



**Údarás na
Gaeltachta**



Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE



VIKEN
FYLKESKOMMUNE



**Region
Jönköpings län**



**Consiliul Județean
Maramureș**



Vojvodina (SRB)

Venue partners:



Ollscoil
Teicneolaíochta
an Atlantaigh

Atlantic
Technological
University

gteic
GRÉASÁN DIGITEACH
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