



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Prosperity
The Director

Brussels,
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Sent by email only

Subject: Horizon Europe calls Youth 2022, an initiative under the European Year of Youth

Dear Research Attachés,

Young people are strongly affected by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in their lives, education and careers. The European Year of Youth 2022 is dedicated to them. It will intensify efforts to include youth priorities in relevant EU policy areas and at every level of the EU's decision-making process. Special emphasis is placed on the need to support young people with fewer opportunities to acquire relevant knowledge and experiences to be active and engaged citizens. At all levels, EU, national, regional or local, the European Year of Youth 2022 aims to support young people to engage in opportunities that can boost their personal and professional development.

In the framework of the European Year of Youth, I am pleased to announce that DG Research & Innovation is launching **today 1 April 2022 a new initiative: HORIZON EUROPE calls YOUTH 2022.**

This initiative invites students to participate as observers in the evaluations of proposals under Horizon Europe. Students, currently enrolled in a Master's programme, in any discipline, at any university of the EU Member States can apply. Students from disadvantaged and diverse backgrounds or belonging to vulnerable and marginalised groups are particularly encouraged to apply.

The first ever Young Observers will be invited to participate in Horizon Europe research proposal evaluations, taking place as of September 2022. The evaluations cover all fields of science in the broad sense, ranging from social sciences and humanities to natural sciences and engineering. The Young observers will be matched with a mentor from the European Commission, who will accompany them throughout the evaluation process.

Universities in any EU Member State and the network of National Contacts Points for Horizon Europe in each EU Member State are important partners in this initiative and can encourage and support applicants. They could also support the European Commission in following-up activities at different levels that will aim to share the Young Observers' experiences and draw lessons to further develop the initiative. More information about the initiative is available at <https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and->

[innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/become-horizon-europe-young-observer_en](#)

I would be grateful if you could share this information with potential partners in your country.

(e-signed)

Peter Dröll

Enclosure: Poster of the initiative