

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

OF THE STRUCTURED DIALOGUE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

**5th cycle for the period
1st January 2016 – 30th June 2017**

I. Background

Since 2010, a Structured Dialogue (hereafter SD) process has been conducted between young people and policy-makers and it has become an integral part of the European Cooperation in the Youth Field

The basis for the SD and its implementation has been set out in the following Council documents:

- [The Council Resolution on a renewed framework for European Cooperation in the youth field \(2010-2018\) of 27 November 2009](#)
- [The Council Resolution on the structured dialogue with young people on youth employment of 19 May 2011;](#)
- [The Council Resolution on the overview of the structured dialogue on youth participation of 27 November 2012;](#)
- [The Council Resolution on the overview of the structured dialogue process including social inclusion of young people of 20 May 2014.](#)
- [Council Resolution on encouraging political participation of young people in democratic life in Europe of 23rd of Nov 2015](#)

As described in the Council Resolution on a renewed framework for European Cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018), *“the structured dialogue with young people and youth organisations serves as a forum for continuous joint reflection on the priorities, implementation and follow-up of European cooperation in the youth field”*.

SD is a continuous process that brings together young people and policy-makers across the European Union to jointly discuss, formulate and put forward proposals for the development of youth policy at national and European level. It is implemented in work cycles of 18 months, each focusing on one topic (overall thematic priority), which is discussed by young people and policy-makers in all EU Member States. The results of these discussions serve as a common basis for the joint deliberations between young people and Ministry representatives from all EU Member States at the EU Youth Conferences, organised successively by each Presidency every six months. The policy proposals resulting from the EU Youth Conferences are then brought to the Member States in the Council of the European Union (hereafter the Council), which decide on whether to include or reflect them in Council documents setting common practices and standards for youth policy in the EU.

The SD European Steering Committee (hereafter ESC), and the Trio Presidency (the Netherlands-Slovakia-Malta) will continue the process with a fifth cycle of structured dialogue between January 2016 and June 2017 which will focus on the overall thematic priority of **“Enabling all young people to engage in a diverse, connected and inclusive Europe - Ready for life, Ready for society”**.

To develop this thematic priority, the Trio Presidency engaged in discussions with the European Commission and the European Youth Forum and held an early consultation with the National Working Groups and International Non-Governmental Youth Organisations (hereafter INGYOS), the outcomes of which were taken into account when setting the theme, as were the priorities identified in the 2015 Joint EU Youth Report and the National priorities.

The Thematic Priority for the V cycle is “enabling all young people to engage in a diverse, connected and inclusive Europe”. The Vth cycle of the Structured Dialogue should focus on how to ensure that all young people in Europe are able to develop the competences that enable them to engage in a diverse, connected and inclusive Europe. Moreover, it is relevant to also include how to ensure involvement of all young people, including those at risk (like youth with a migrant background and youth facing mental health problems). The development of these skills and competences can play an important role in preventing exclusion and in helping young people to develop self-esteem and resilience to deal with trends towards marginalisation and exclusion. This is a two-way process: also young people not at risk should have the competences to contribute to an inclusive society.

Following the adoption of the Council Resolution of 2014, the different phases of SD as a process have been adapted to the proposals of its main actors towards a simplified and clearer architecture. The fifth cycle reflects this new architecture:

A. Phase 1

The objective of the first phase of the cycle and of the first EU Youth Conference (hereafter EUYC) is to **explore the challenges and problems faced by young people in relation to the overall thematic priority and to set the Guiding Framework for the broad consultation in Phase 2.**

Prior to the EU Youth Conference (EUYC), the ESC will set the National Working Group (hereafter NWG) a number of tasks, which aim at feeding into the EUYC. The EUYC will provide to youth representatives and policy-makers with an opportunity to agree on a common understanding of the main challenges and barriers that young people face in the context of the overall thematic priority. This common understanding will be formulated in a Guiding Framework which will be the basis for the formulation of questions for the consultation process in phase 2. Based on the Guiding Framework, the ESC, with the assistance of an expert in the field, will draft the questions for the broad consultation. These questions will be announced at the end of the EUYC to launch the broad consultation of young people across Europe.

B. Phase 2

The second phase of the SD cycle will consist of a broad consultation with young people and policy-makers across the EU, designed and implemented by National Working Groups, INGYOs and other relevant youth organisations, in accordance with the questions set by the ESC.

The NWGs will have the responsibility for carrying out online and offline consultation with diverse groups of young people affected by the overall thematic priority. As outlined in the 2015 Council Resolution, the use of innovative and outreach methods are encouraged, including the use of online consultations combined with face-to-face meetings, methods that combine different ways of expression and local consultation events involving local NGOs, youth (information) organisations, local authorities and NWGs. INGYOs and relevant youth organisations are also encouraged to assist NWGs in the consultation process.

The outcomes of the consultations will set the scene for discussions at the EUYC in Slovakia, which will conclude with joint recommendations endorsed by the conference participants on how to enable young people to engage in a diverse, connected and inclusive Europe.

The joint recommendations will be submitted for discussion and consideration at the meeting of the Council of Youth Ministers, where Ministers will be invited to give their views and responses and to consider ways in which such joint recommendations can be implemented by the different stakeholders.

C. Phase 3

The third phase of the SD process will focus on how the recommendations can be implemented.

Prior to the EUYC, the ESC will assess the viability of all the recommendations, based on the guidance of the Council Ministers and of the NWGs. This could result in focusing the third EUYC on the implementation of fewer recommendations only.

NWGs will be invited to gather practical ideas for implementing the recommendations agreed by the ESC. The last EUYC will further develop and discuss practical measures and propose an implementation toolbox for national authorities, NGOs and young people.

NWG will also be asked to identify 2 good practices that resulted from the implementation tool box of the previous cycle (IV cycle), which will be shared and disseminated during the conference.

The outcomes of the 5th cycle of the SD will be reflected in a Council Resolution to be adopted under the Maltese Presidency, to conclude the 5th cycle.

II. Expected Outcomes

The main outcomes of the cycle will be the following:

- A Guiding Framework for the broad consultation and the dialogue to be conducted on the overall thematic priority.
- Joint Recommendations endorsed by the participants of the EUYC in Slovakia
- A Council Resolution

- An implementation toolbox that is to be gathered by the Maltese Presidency and disseminated to all relevant policy-makers and practitioners.

The ESC underlines that dialogue and the joint decision-making of young people and policy-makers is the focus of the process at every stage. The active involvement of policy-makers from all the relevant sectors linked to the overall thematic priority thus remains a priority.

III. Implementation

A. Role and responsibilities

1. The European Steering Committee (ESC)

The ESC is responsible for the coordination of the SD.

The ESC has the following tasks:

- Coordinating the SD and offering guidance and coordination to the NWGs, INGYOs and other relevant youth organisations in carrying out the tasks related to the SD.
- Endorsing the agenda of the EUYC, with the guidance of the coordinator of the facilitators.
- Monitoring and assessing the progress of the SD, notably the implementation of policy recommendations of the current and previous cycles on the basis of inputs received from NWGs.
- Promoting the SD process externally and promoting its outcomes at EU level.

European Steering Committee is composed of the following members¹:

- Three representatives of each of the Team Presidency countries' Ministries for Youth Affairs, National Youth Councils and National Agencies for Youth in Action of Erasmus+ Programme;
- Three representatives of the European Commission;
- Three representatives of the European Youth Forum

The composition of the ESC for the 5th cycle of SD is the following:

The Netherlands	Bonita Kleefkens (GOV)
	Andrea Bos (NYC)
	Peter Pieters (N/A)
Slovakia	Miroslava Gajdosova (GOV)
	Peter Lenco (N/A)
	Tatiana Petrikovicova (NYC)
Malta	Miriam Teuma (GOV)
	Jason Zammit (N/A)
	Rebecca Buttigieg (NYC)

European Youth Forum	Lucille Rieux
	Jan Wilker
	Luis Alvarado Martinez
European Commission	Jorgen Hansen
	Maria Luisa Fernandez Esteban
	Harald Hartung

	YFJ Chair of ESC	Presidencies	NYCs	European Commission
Coordination	Prepares the agenda of ESC			
	Participates in ESC meetings			
	Drafts guiding questions for the broad consultation			
	Communicates information to NWGs and INGYOs	Arranges the venue of the meeting hosted by the Presidency.		Convenes meetings
	Is the contact point between ESC and NWGs Provides the secretariat of the ESC		Prepares toolkit for NWGs on outreach ideas	Gathers the contact details of ESC members
Preparation of EUYC	Compiles input from NWGs, INGYOs and other relevant youth organisations	Organises the EU Youth Conference	Organises the EU Youth Conference	
	Support in the preparation of the agenda of the EUYC	Proposes and takes the lead of the agenda of the EUYC, with the assistance of the coordinator of facilitators	Proposes and takes the lead of the agenda of the EUYC, with the assistance of the coordinator of facilitators	Support in the preparation of the agenda of the EUYC
	Communicates open call to NWGs preparation tasks	Sends out invitations to the EUYC to NWGs , and reidentified stakeholders		

		Manages the facebook page and twitter account of the EU Youth Conference	Manages the facebook page and twitter account of the EU Youth Conference	
Monitoring progresses	Supports in preparing the SD event of the European Youth Week			Organises, in close cooperation with ESC, the SD conference during the European Youth Week, which includes the main actors in the process
	Collects good practices in the implementation through the NWGs/INGYOs Map Out		Assists in gathering good practices of the NWGs & INGYOs.	Reports to ESC on its activities related to implementation and follow-up of SD outcomes at Commission level.
	Supports NWGs in developing implementation and monitoring strategies			Through the EU Youth Report, ensures a clear overview of the implementation of the structured dialogue outcomes at national and EU level.
Follow up and Promoting SD	Disseminates all relevant documents to NWGs & INGYOs	Informs about the structured dialogue on the Presidency's webpage	Communicates and advocates on the structured dialogue outcomes at national level.	Communicates and promotes the dialogue outcomes to all relevant Commission services
	Communicates the dialogue outcomes to its members and identified relevant partners	Updates regularly the Youth Working Party and other relevant Council's formations on outcome of the Structured Dialogue.		
		Prepares an Explanatory Note on the follow-up of the explanatory note w-up acates it Prepares an		

	Prepare an explanatory note on the follow-up and communication of the ESC, NWGs & INGyOs and relevant youth organisations		
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The European Youth Forum holds the Chair and the Secretariat of the ESC and facilitates the process, working in tandem with the Council and the Commission.

The EU Presidency country holds the Vice Chair of the ESC. The ESC works on a basis of consensus and each member holds the responsibility of the process.

The ESC meets at least twice during each Presidency's term, before and after the EUYC.

In order to be as transparent as possible, the YFJ in cooperation with the European Commission will update information related to its responsibilities, calendar, and members on the mini-site of the European Youth Portal.

Costs:

Any costs related to the meetings and the on-going work of the European Steering Committee, are met from existing resources by the Team Presidency, the European Commission and the European Youth Forum.

Each member bears the costs of their own participation in the ESC. Each Presidency should cover the costs of the participation of its own delegation, including the National Youth Council.

The ESC will in due course invite representatives of the national youth authorities and youth councils of the incoming Team Presidency countries to participate as observers in ESC meetings, with a view to ensuring a timely preparation of the next cycle of SD.

A handover meeting between the outgoing and incoming ESCs will be organised before the end of the fifth cycle.

2. The support structure of the Structured Dialogue

The European Steering Committee is supported by international and national facilitators in the practical implementation of the structured dialogue at EU Youth Conferences.

The support structure is composed of:

- 9 international facilitators selected by the European Youth Forum
- 9 (3 x 3) national facilitators. Each Presidency selects 3 national facilitators

The whole team is working together for the 18-month cycle.

It is the responsibility of each Presidency, during its term, to hire, at its own costs, the support structure of international facilitators, according to the conditions foreseen in a call prepared by the European Youth Forum on behalf of the ESC.

The role of the support structure of facilitators is to give methodological support and ensure continuity in the organisation of the SD at EU level. Based on the clear tasks and guidelines they receive, the international and national facilitators cooperate closely and share their methodologies and provide technical and practical support to the preparation and organisation of the EU Youth Conferences.

In order to coordinate the support structure, one of the members of facilitators, Marko Paunovic, will hold the responsibility of **coordinator of the facilitators**.

His/her tasks are the following:

1. Supporting the ESC in the preparation of the programmes and agendas of the EU Youth Conferences, with a particular focus on the methodology.
2. Providing support to YFJ and the Presidency country in the preparation and coordination of the EUYC preparatory meetings.
3. Coordinating the facilitators in the preparation of the EUYCs, ensuring coherency in the methodology and understanding of their tasks.
3. Being the contact person of the facilitators towards YFJ and the Presidency countries during and outside the EUYC
4. Ensuring follow-up of the evaluations after each EUYC, in order to adapt and improve the work of the facilitators during the EUYCs

3. The National Working Groups (NWG)

NWGs have the responsibility of implementing the SD in their respective countries by setting up a quality, transparent and inclusive participatory process with young people.

The National Working Group is composed of:

- National Youth Council, who in most cases, chairs the NWGs
- National youth authority (representatives from the Government in charge of youth issues)
- National agency for the Programme Erasmus+ Youth in Action
- Other representatives from relevant ministries, if appropriate
- Other stakeholders (NGOs, experts, researchers, youth workers, local and regional authorities etc)

To enrich the outcomes of SD, youth workers, youth and academic experts, professional youth service providers and relevant youth organisations affected by the overall thematic priority should participate in the consultations and, when relevant, in the EUYCs.

The implementation of the SD is a collective responsibility of all members of the NWG .A joint commitment of all stakeholders within the NWGs is of crucial importance and lies at the very core of the SD process.

The responsibilities of the NWGs include:

- Ensuring an increased outreach of SD to all young people, including those affected by the overall thematic priority
- Engaging and consulting with young people in a transparent and participative process, in order to collect their views and proposals on the overall thematic priority of the SD
- Organising debates and discussions between young people and policy-makers
- Selecting the youth representatives for the EUYCs
- Preparing the youth representatives for the EUYCs. It is their responsibility to ensure the representativeness of the selected youth representatives
- Coordinating the SD activities in the Member States
- Ensuring a feedback on the SD outcomes and process to all young people involved in the process at national level
- Ensuring the follow-up and dissemination of the outcomes towards the relevant national stakeholders
- Monitoring and sharing the implementation of the previous cycle of the SD at national level

NWGs are entitled to apply for an annual grant from the Erasmus+ Programme to support their activities.

4. The International Non Governmental Youth Organisations (INGYOs)

INGYOs contribute to the implementation of the structured dialogue at European level.

Their role is to:

- Bring a European perspective to the SD by organising international events and collecting the views and opinions of young people (members and non-members). These collected input are sent to the YFJ prior to the EU Youth Conferences.
- Contribute to the implementation of the recommendations, when relevant
- Disseminate and monitor the implementation of the Structured Dialogue at EU level, hence engaging with relevant EU institutions/platforms.
- Engage their national/regional branches with the NWGs in order to increase the outreach of the SD

A selection of the INGYOs is carried out by the European Youth Forum who select the organisations and candidates with most expertise in the overall thematic priority.

The ESC carries out the selection of the 3 other relevant youth organisations.

To ensure their representation in the EUYCs, up to 15 representatives of the European Youth Forum, INGYOs and other relevant youth organisations are invited to each EUYC. The Chair of the ESC is not included in this quota as s/he represents the ESC in the EUYCs.

5. Other relevant stakeholders in the V cycle of the SD

The Structured Dialogue is a tool to address policy issues important for young people within the framework of the EU Youth Strategy, which has identified 8 fields of actions that are relevant for young people's development and well being. The ESC is committed to improve the cross-sectorial approach of the Structured Dialogue, by identifying the relevant stakeholders for this thematic priority, and inviting them to participate throughout this process.

Moreover, other experts could be involved throughout the Structured Dialogue cycle, such as youth workers (especially during the EU Youth Conferences), Researchers (esp. during the 1st EU youth Conference), public service providers (esp. during the 3rd EU Youth Conferences) and any other NGO with specific expertise.

B. Funding for the Structured Dialogue

In addition to the annual grants provided for NWGs, the Erasmus+ programme (2014-2020) provides funding opportunities for the SD in its Key Action 3 Support for policy reform. The Key Action 3 covers specifically the action of the *structured dialogue: meetings between young people and decision-makers in the field of youth*.

Youth representatives, such as National Youth Councils and youth organisations are encouraged to use the funding opportunities for SD projects available under Key Action 3, which can cover a range of youth-led activities such as national and transnational meetings, conferences, consultations and events that offer space for information, discussions and debates between young people and decision-makers.

C. European Youth Week (EYW)

The EYW is organised by the European Commission, normally every two years. It includes a conference in Brussels for the main actors in the SD, which is organised in close cooperation with the ESC. EYW was organised in 2015, but no decision has as yet been taken regarding the organisation of an EYW in 2017.

D. Ensuring the quality of the process

The ESC is committed to improving the quality of the Structured Dialogue process and wishes to highlight in particular the following elements:

Inclusiveness of the process: the Structured Dialogue process must reach out to a vast number of young people; The IV cycle represented the view of 40 000 young people across Europe.

However, there are still improvements to be made in order to engage those who are away from the usual political processes. The objective remains to ensure that the SD is representative of all young people.

Representativeness of the youth representatives: Efforts must be made by the NWGs to ensure that the 3 national youth representatives nominated to attend the EUYCs represent the voices of all young people who took part in the consultation, and not their own. NWGs should ensure an adequate preparation of the youth representatives.

Involvement of policy-makers: the IV cycle of the Structured Dialogue saw a marked improvement in the quality of the participation of the policy-makers during the EUYCs. The quality and openness of the dialogue between young people and policy-makers is key to the success of the SD. Therefore, both parts must make an effort to listen to each other and to participate actively in the EUYC workshops, with the support of the facilitators. Moreover, the involvement and commitment of policy-makers throughout the cycle must occur at all stages, notably through national discussion and participation in the NWG.

Cooperation with other policy areas: Since many of the policy proposals resulting from the SD go beyond strict youth policy, it is important that policy-makers from other relevant policy fields (such as relevant Ministries, public authorities, etc.) are involved in the discussions with young people, as well as in the follow-up and implementation of the outcomes of the dialogue. They should be informed of the policy proposals emerging from the dialogue and asked about their intentions for follow-up actions or for including such proposals in the policies they are responsible for.

Sharing of good practices: NWGs, INGYOs and other relevant youth organisations are invited to share their own good practices with other NWGs and INGYOs. The ESC will facilitate spaces for such exchange of practices (EYW, Map Out) but also encourages the NWGs themselves to take the lead in organising such exchanges.

E. Increasing the outreach of the process

To ensure the representativeness and diversity of young people in the process, an outreach must be ensured to different target groups that are affected by the overall thematic priority. It can be done reached through:

- Making the Structured Dialogue more widely known through a promotion of the process by, in particular, NWGs
- Increasing the number of young people contributing to the consultations -
- Enhanced use of the Online Participation Platform developed on the European Youth Portal, which it is free for NWGs to use

The ESC welcomes the National Agencies initiatives to connect national projects funding with Erasmus + and tacking the priority of the Structured Dialogue, together with the National Working Groups.

Moreover, the ESC would like to explore the following proposals in order to increase the outreach:

1. Involve new stakeholders in the outreach

- The ESC is open to exploring outreach possibilities with grassroots network organisations in order to engage with different young people.
- Moreover, it will strengthen the partnership established with information networks such as [ERYICA](#), [EYCA](#) and [EURODESK](#).
- Finally, the ESC will seek cooperation with organisations outside the youth fields, such as [ENGSO](#), [YES Forum](#) in the consultation phase, but also through field activities during the EUYCs.

At National level, the ESC will

- Encourage NWGs to explore new partnerships at National/regional/local level and to carry out activities outside the network of already engaged young people. For instance, NWGs could work with schools, youth centres, etc.
The ESC will develop a toolkit for the NWGs with ideas and opportunities to engage with non-organised young people during the consultation period.
- Encourage the organisation of parallel event(s) with local youth in the Presidency country, and/or looking into options of further engaging local youth during the Presidency and around the EU Youth Conference, in order to maximise the impact the national youth population of the country holding the Presidency on its national youth.
- The Online Participation Platform (OPP) will be available by early April and can be used by NWGs to carry out their consultation.

IV. Communication and visibility

The communication strategy of the Structured Dialogue needs to be coordinated and to set clear responsibilities.

A. Common EU branding

The Council Conclusion of May 2014 on the overview of the Structured Dialogue including the social inclusion of young people stresses that *“A creative and participatory process should be launched to develop a common and improved European visibility for the Structured Dialogue, which will allow for a national and European “branding” of the process”*

The recommendation is based on the acknowledgment that there is not a coherent European communication strategy, nor branding existing at EU level.

The Structured Dialogue is promoted at National level differently, by the NWGs and there is no common branding that could enhance the coherency and the visibility of the Structured Dialogue.

In particular, European branding can encompass an official video/animation presentation of the Structured Dialogue, a logo and a visual identity for any official document on the Structured Dialogue (word, power point presentations etc)

B. General communication strategy

The Structured Dialogue is a multi-level process that requires a clear communication strategy;

Role of the ESC

At EU level, the ESC aims at ensuring visibility of the cycle towards all relevant partners, NWGs and external stakeholders or individual interested in the SD.

To do so, the ESC uses the following tools:

- **European Youth Portal**: there, individuals or organisations can find updated information on the cycle, past information on the cycle, resource documents like presentations/videos, information on the ESC, etc
- To ensure visibility around and during the EUYCs each Presidency will carry on using the [facebook page](#) and the twitter account of the EUYC developed by the outgoing Trio Presidencies

Moreover, the ESC will prepare two animated video.

One will present in a simple and straightforward manner the flow of the V cycle of the SD to the NWGs. (to be ready around february 2016). It could be also used for NWGs to present the SD to young people.

The other one will be a short and catchy video calling young people to engage and participate, and should be ready by the end of March 2016, and used by NWGs to engage young people in the consultations.

Role of the NWGs:

At National level, the NWG should ensure the high visibility of the SD amongst young people and youth organisations, especially towards those working at grassroots level with young people. The NWG have the responsibility to set up a visibility strategy to shed light on the SD and encourage participation of young people and structures working with young people. Through the funding they receive yearly, NWGs are able to develop communication tools (such as website, flyer, toolkits etc) in their national language.

The ESC will assess the situation in terms of communication tools towards the NWGs, through the Map Out 2016.

C. Dissemination & follow-up

After each cycle, the dissemination of the Joint Recommendations and the Council Conclusions is important to ensure follow-up.

The dissemination should be carried out the following:

The Presidency country disseminates the Council Conclusions/Resolutions and other outcomes to all the relevant formations of the Council,

They seek political commitment of the Member States, within the Council of the EU, to put in place concrete policy initiatives to follow-up the proposals from the structured dialogue.

The European Commission disseminates the Council Conclusions/Resolutions to relevant services of the European Commission

The European Youth Forum disseminates the Council Conclusions/Resolutions at the end of the cycle to the NWGs and INGyOs via email and press release. It also reaches to the European Parliament, especially the Cult Committee and Youth intergroup, and when relevant to other committees/groups

The NWGs disseminate the joint recommendation and Council Conclusions to young people and other stakeholders who took part in the SD process or may have an interest in its outcomes.

The ESC will strengthen its cooperation with youth information networks such as EYCA, ERYICA and Eurodesk. These networks reach out to non-organised youth and could be of great support in giving visibility to the SD , disseminating the consultations and the results.

a. Communication with the NWGs

The ESC will work on improving the transparency of the communication with the NWGs. To do so, the ESC makes sure that updated information about its role, composition and timeline of the will be available on the EYP and on the EUYC facebook. The ESC is in charge of coordinating the NWGs and INGyOs and communicating all relevant information in a clear and timely fashion. NWGs, INGyOs and relevant youth organisations are responsible for communicating all relevant information about the process at national level and within their networks, respectively.

V. Monitoring and follow-up of the Structured Dialogue

All stakeholders involved in the structured dialogue share the responsibility of ensuring and monitoring the follow-up and implementation of the joint conclusions/recommendations put forward in the structured dialogue.

Monitoring and visibility of the implementation is crucial to keep on motivating young people to participate in the process and for being able to prove its added value.

The first step in the monitoring is of the responsibility of the Presidency country.

As outlined in the 2015 Council Resolution, in order to provide feedback to all young people who participate in the process, it is essential that the Trio Presidencies inform young people who have participated in the consultation process and EUYCs, by means of an explanatory note or other means of communication, on the extent to which the final SD outcome has been considered by the Council and the Commission in the third phase of the cycle.

The European Commission monitors initiatives taken by its services to follow-up on the previous cycles. The European Commission provides regular feedback to the ESC on how the recommendations of the Council Conclusions on the Structured Dialogue addressed to the European Commission, were followed-up.

At national level, the NWGs, with main accountability of the Ministry in charge of Youth Affairs, should act as ambassadors of the process and, to the extent possible, monitor the progress in the implementation of the policy recommendations in their respective countries in order to share the results of the implementation of the previous structured dialogue cycle (4th cycle)

In case the European Commission organises the European Youth Week in 2017, the Structured Dialogue event could subsequently provide an opportunity for looking back and exchanging information on the implementation progresses.

The NWGs should also report on the progresses and implementation made at national level via the Map Out 2016 that the ESC is organising with the NWGs and INGYOs.

The European Youth Forum carries out follow-up actions at the European level and support and encourages National Youth Councils to monitor the follow-up and implementation of the structured dialogue outcomes at national level.

The ESC should strengthen its role to monitor the follow-up of the dialogue outcomes at EU level and should make it a priority during the fifth cycle to enhance implementation of the results of the SD.

The monitoring of the SD must be visible through the **Joint EU Youth Report**, adopted every 3 years by the European Commission and the Council of the EU, on the implementation of EU Youth Strategy.

This must be ensured through the continued inclusion of a specific section in the EU Youth Report on the implementation of SD.

For this, in the questionnaire sent out to National governments, one should add a section on Structured Dialogue, where Member States are invited to explain if and how they have followed-up on the recommendations emanating from the SD process.

VI. Timetable

PRESIDENCY	WHEN	WHAT
DUTCH PRESIDENCY	JANUARY 2016	ESC meeting (12-13 January) Registration opens
	FEBRUARY	Registration closes
	MARCH	Preparation meeting facilitators (3-4 March) ESC meeting (15-16 March)
	APRIL	EU Youth Conference (4-7 April) DG Meeting (7-8 April) Consultation period for NWGs
	MAY	Informal Forum & Council (30 May) Consultation period for NWGs
	JUNE	ESC Meeting (6 June) Consultation period for NWGs
SLOVAK PRESIDENCY	JULY	Consultation period for NWGs
	AUGUST	Consultation End of the consultation period for NWGs
	SEPTEMBER	13 th -14 th of September, ESC meeting in Bratislava
	OCTOBER	1-2 prep meeting facilitators 3 rd -- 6 th EUYC
	NOVEMBER	Informal forum and EYCS (High level policy debate) (21-22)
	DECEMBER	ESC meeting
MALTESE PRESIDENCY	JANUARY 2017	Consultation with NWG
	FEBRUARY	ESC Meeting Prep meeting for Facilitators
	MARCH	EUYC (tbc)
	APRIL	
	MAY	Informal Forum and Council Resolution to be adopted by Council of Ministers
	JUNE	ESC meeting and handover meeting
	JULY	