

Regional Thematic Meeting: GUAM

(Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova)

Youth-focused diaspora engagement initiatives

The [European Union Global Diaspora Facility](#) (EUDiF) is funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD). EUDiF is the first EU-funded project that works towards fostering an informed, inclusive and impactful diaspora-development ecosystem on a global scale.

In 2020 EUDiF completed a diaspora engagement mapping of 107 countries, exploring policies, practices and trends in diaspora engagement around the world. The table below is a compilation of all spotlight initiatives related to youth diaspora engagement around the world gathered through our mapping exercise.

We are interested in learning more from you! Should you wish to share details on youth-focused diaspora engagement initiatives with us, please complete the [diaspora-led projects form](#).



COUNTRY	NAME	DESCRIPTION	LINKS
GUAM MEMBER STATES			
Azerbaijan	Azerbaijani Diaspora Youth Summer Camp	This initiative is designed for young people aged between 18 and 29 who are able to communicate in Azerbaijani language and are interested in the history and culture of Azerbaijan. The First Summer Camp dedicated to the “100th Anniversary of the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan” took place in 2018 in Shaki.	www.facebook.com/DiasporGenerininYayDushergesi ; www.diaspor.gov.az/qeydiyyat Instagram: @diasporacamp.az Twitter: @DiasporaYouthSC
Azerbaijan	MOBILAZE Migration studies weekends	Were organised in Baku by the State Committee on Work with Diaspora to focus on various topics related to migration challenges, including migration and development. The weekends targeted young professionals working in a migration related field and aimed at raising awareness on the opportunities for development offered by migration in Azerbaijan.	www.facebook.com/ICMPDinAzerbaijan/posts/mobilaze-migration-studies-weekend-on-integration-and-citizenship-17-18-february/539484086421275
Azerbaijan	World Azerbaijanis Congress	The congress serves as a discussion platform for diaspora leaders. It works to protect the rights and freedoms of compatriots, to undertake diaspora advocacy and lobbying, to develop a strategy for youth in the Azerbaijani Diaspora movement, and to be representative in political life and other important topics for the diaspora. The first Congress of World Azerbaijanis was held in 2001 and subsequent congresses were held in 2006, 2011 and 2016. The fourth congress brought together over 500 diaspora representatives and guests from 49 countries. The congress elected the Coordinating Council for World Azerbaijanis, which aims to meet every year and is led by its executive secretary. The Executive Secretary of the Council is a Chairman of the State Committee on works with Diaspora.	www.dakaz.org/index.php?id=1



Georgia	Diaspora Forums	The Georgian Diaspora Forum is organised once a year in Tbilisi, Georgia. It brings together prominent Georgian diaspora members, government officials, academia, civil society, private entities and international organisations, with the aim of networking, organising workshops and thematic discussions and establishing cooperation opportunities in the fields of economics, business, education and science, philanthropy, public diplomacy as well as youth engagement, athletics and culture.	http://gda.ge/Search?q=%E1%83%A4%E1%83%9D%E1%83%A0%E1%83%A3%E1%83%9B%E1%83%98
Georgia	Young Ambassadors Programme	This annual programme is designed for Georgian youth living abroad to represent Georgia in their respective countries of residence through cultural and educational events; the objective of the programme is to increase awareness on ongoing political-economic or social issues in Georgia, to promote tourism, to encourage investment and to engage other youth and local residents in networking activities. The programme is implemented in cooperation with the EU-funded ICMPD ENIGMMA 2 project.	www.enigma.ge/en/?s=young+ambassadors
Moldova	Diaspora. Origin. Return (DOR)	DOR aims to strengthen the emotional and cultural identity and connection of second-generation diaspora with Moldova. The first edition took place in 2013. Diaspora children camps and youth camps (E-way to home) are a part of the annual DOR programme.	www.brd.gov.md/ro/content/programul-pentru-copiii-din-diaspora-dor www.gov.md/en/content/over-100-children-youth-diaspora-and-moldova-participated-dor-program
Ukraine	Global Ukrainians Forum	The forum is run by 30 volunteers in Ukraine and abroad. They are constantly in contact with more than 400 young Ukrainian expatriates in 70 countries. The aim of the forum is the development of the Ukrainian public cultural and business diplomacy strategies by inviting Ukrainian expats, leaders of post-Maidan movements, who have shown their abilities in organising and achieving positive results by using various types of public diplomacy. Some of the activities include a Business Hub (see below) and the Global Ukrainians Club (a platform that brings together Ukrainians abroad in order to run social, humanitarian, cultural and other projects.	https://www.global-ukraine.org/en/events/viii-global-ukrainians-forum/about



OTHER COUNTRIES

Algeria	Affordable Housing in Algeria for the Algerian community established abroad	<p>The Algerian Ministry of Habitation, Urbanism, and Towns established the ‘<i>Logements publics promotionnels</i>’ (LPP) affordable housing scheme in 2014 to support young Algerians with means to acquire affordable property and get on the property ladder. Successful applicants pay a monthly subscription. The LPP scheme is also open to Algerian diaspora youth (35 or under) who own no property and who have received no additional state aid; the criteria for minimum salaries has been waived for Algerians abroad.</p>	<p>www.enpi.dz www.aps.dz/en/algeria/27281-algerian-community-abroad-gets-access-to-housing-programme-in-2018</p>
Armenia	Step Home	<p>This programme is organised for diaspora youth by the Office of the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs. The aim is to make it possible for Armenian youth living abroad to recognise their homeland and its linguistic and cultural values, and thus contribute to the strengthening of Armenia-Diaspora ties and the preservation of the Armenian identity in the Diaspora. In 2018, 400 Armenian youth from 24 countries participated in the Step Home programme; in 2019, 357 youth participants from 28 countries took part.</p>	
Armenia	Young Leaders Training Programme	<p>The programme aims at promoting community leadership, community organisation and cohesion. In 2019, 24 young community workers from six countries participated in the project. A pilot sub-project organising internships for young specialists from the diaspora will be launched on 1 July 2020, running for at least 12 months. The Office of the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs funds the programme. It aims to invest the experience and knowledge of the diaspora experts in Armenia’s development process, promoting Armenia-Diaspora partnership and contributing to ‘reverse brain drain’.</p>	



<p>El Salvador</p>	<p>Cumbres de Juventudes Salvadoreñas and Campamento Kuskatan 2018</p>	<p>Four youth conferences (Washington D.C., Dallas, Los Angeles and Milan) were organised for Salvadoran youth living abroad. The conferences aimed to empower youth abroad by sharing their experiences and reflecting to create initiatives for their own development as well as that of their communities. Through these events, Salvadorans abroad created networks to strengthen their cultural, political, and economic ties to El Salvador. The conferences also led to the creation of Campamento Kuskatan, a camp for Salvadorans living abroad to go to El Salvador to learn about its culture.</p>	<p>www.dallasnews.com/espanol/al-dia/dallas-fort-worth/2017/05/31/convocan-a-jovenes-salvadorenos-en-el-exterior-a-participar-en-campamento-kuskatan</p>
<p>India</p>	<p>Know India Programme (KIP)</p>	<p>KIP is a programme run by the Ministry of External Affairs. It consists of a three-week orientation programme for diaspora youth conducted with a view to promote awareness on different facets of life in India and the progress made by the country in various fields e.g. economic, industrial, education.</p>	<p>www.kip.gov.in</p>
<p>Marshall Islands</p>	<p>Marshallese Youth Academy (MYA)</p>	<p>Implemented by the Marshallese Education Initiative (MEI), an Arkansas-based NGO formed in 2013 that promotes the cultural, intellectual and historical awareness of Marshallese people, the Marshallese Youth Academy offers a programme for Marshallese diaspora youth in North West Arkansas. Students under the MYA learn about leadership, receive mentoring, and learn of the importance of Marshallese culture.</p>	<p>www.mei.ngo/marshallese-in-arkansas</p>
<p>Mongolia</p>	<p>Soyol School</p>	<p>The school was founded in 2014 in Germany by members of the Deutsch-Mongolisches Tor in NRW e.V. 'Soyol' means culture in Mongolian, and the school aims to teach children and youth from the Mongolian diaspora in Germany the language and origins of Mongolian culture, as a defining part of their cultural identity. In the academic year of 2018-19, the school had four teachers and 29 students with Mongolian classes taking place on Saturdays twice a month.</p>	<p>www.dmt-nrw.de/index.php/soyol</p>



Philippines	Youth Leaders in the Diaspora	Youth Leaders in the Diaspora is a two-week cultural immersion programme, begun in 2019, in the Philippines for Filipino youth who were born abroad or migrated at a young age. Organised by Connecting Filipinos in Europe (ENFiD), it seeks to help participants understand their identity and move them towards a meaningful relationship with their extended family and/or the country.	www.enfid.org/youth-leaders-in-the-diaspora
Rwanda	Rwanda Diaspora Youth Partnership Programme (RDYPP)	This joint programme by the University of Winchester and AEGIS, an NGO working on genocide prevention, is a participatory collaborative research project that aims to evaluate and build knowledge exchange networks between young Rwandans aged 18-25 in the UK and Rwanda, in order to assess how those networks might be used to address key development challenges on young people's own terms.	www.winchester.ac.uk/research/building-a-sustainable-and-responsible-future/projects-in-building-a-sustainable-and-responsible-future/rwanda-diaspora-youth-partnership-programme
Tajikistan	TajRupt	TajRupt is the first IT- incubator and AI centre with a mission of empowering the youth in Tajikistan. TajRupt is aimed to transform Tajikistan into a regional hub of artificial intelligence research and entrepreneurship by 2025. TajRupt is a startup with a mission of transforming the youth into engaged critical thinkers through extracurricular education. There are three areas of focus at TajRupt: machine learning education, applied research, and venture incubator for youth in Tajikistan.	www.linkedin.com/company/tajrupt/about
Uzbekistan	World Association of Youth of Uzbekistan	The World Association of Youth of Uzbekistan aims at raising the spirit of patriotism, pride, as well as promoting healthy lifestyles to compatriots living abroad through the organisation of meetings, celebrations, festivals and literary evenings with celebrities; informing young people abroad about the reforms carried out in Uzbekistan; providing assistance in the adaptation of returning compatriots to their historical homeland and assisting them in finding their place in the society.	www.uwed.uz/en/pages/youth-union



<p>Vietnam</p>	<p>Vietnam Summer Camp</p>	<p>Organised by the SCOV, the camp takes place annually in 10 localities across the country. The diaspora comes to Vietnam and pays respect to former President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum in Hanoi and visits other cultural and historical sites across Vietnam. There are also social activities, such as presenting gifts to relatives of martyrs, orphans and children in need, and interacting with local Vietnamese in several provinces. Since 2004, the camp has attracted 2,000 members of the diaspora from 30 countries and gives them a chance to connect with other Vietnamese.</p>	
<p>Vietnam</p>	<p>Truong Sa and DK1 platforms – a journey of the heart</p>	<p>Implemented by SCOV, saw the publication of 5,000 calendars with images of Truong Sa. The annual project has received support from diaspora across five continents, and the proceeds from the sale of calendars are usually donated to purchase equipment for the islands and 32 scholarships for the children of naval soldiers.</p>	<p>www.hanoitimes.vn/emotional-visit-of-overseas-vietnamese-to-truong-sa-archipelago-624.html</p>

