



EGD Call for Applications

Szeged, 20-23 March 2022

Europeans Go Digital! And you?

*Are you ready to propose your vision for cybersecurity in Europe? Then the second Europeans Go Digital event in Szeged, Hungary, is for you! Come experience engaging activities with **65 young people from 12 countries** during a four-day event from 20 - 23 March 2022.*

You will debate what is your vision for a digitalised European society, engage in consensus building exercises with fellow Europeans, and learn how to reach out to EU decision makers to voice your opinion!

Why?

As we are experiencing increased levels of division and polarization, as threats to our personal data are ramping, and we feel insecure about what we share and how we interact in the digital world... Perhaps it's time to do something about it! You can stay on your couch and do nothing, but **we give you the possibility not only to think about change, but also to be the change and to make that change together with fellow European young people!** It will be challenging, it will require effort, but you will be capable of turning back to this moment some years in the future and say...I have made a difference!

In this EGD experience, we will show that you can easily reach out to decision makers: you can make your voice heard by bringing them innovative solutions, but also make young people aware that the digital space is a common space and we can make it safe!

It's time for a European digital adventure!



One Event, Two Engaging Formats: the Oxford-style Debate and the Idea Challenge

In EGD Szeged you will have the opportunity to experience two formats: first an Oxford-style debate to get more familiar with the topics; and second an Idea Challenge where you can brainstorm innovative solutions and make an action plan to reach decision makers and peers.

The aim of Oxford-style debate is to fuel food for your thoughts on some of today's hot topics, such as:

- [Are you ready to be monitored by artificial intelligence regulators against cyber threats in order to be safe online while using day-to-day devices?](#)
- [Are you willing to limit freedom of expression on the internet to tackle disinformation?](#)
- [Is it feasible for consumers and businesses to be independent of big companies? Would you trade the efficiency of big e-commerce companies \(Amazon, eBay, etc\) for trading directly with small businesses?](#)

If you're wondering what **an Oxford-style debate** is all about, here's the answer you seek: a competitive debate format featuring a sharply framed motion (topic) that is proposed by one side (pro) and opposed by another (con). Participants will be divided into debaters and audience (see the section below).

The **Idea Challenge** seeks to collect fresh ideas on disruptive issues, such as:

- [Which is the future for the e-Citizenship identity?](#)
- [How to guarantee security and trust in the use of personal data on the internet?](#)
- [How to make young people live responsibly in the digital society? Can peer-to-peer education make the task easier?](#)

The participants will be divided into 2 groups: around 50 participants will work on online awareness campaigns and 10 of them will work on 2 policy proposals.

The experiential learning method of the activities will allow you to connect immediately with the topics, increase your confidence in civic participation, engage with your peers and decision makers to promote policy change. With this experience you can be the amplifier for the voice of many young Europeans to have their say regarding Europe's digital future.

We are excited to share that all these topics are aligned with the policy proposals that are now under discussion at the European institutional level. Now is the time to make your voice count!

And you will not be alone in this endeavour: you will be guided by facilitators in the creation of the awareness campaigns and the policy proposals.

The best awareness campaign and policy proposal will be awarded by a jury.

Upon your selection, we will invite you to join us in a Zoom call where we will help define the final agenda, speakers and the topics of the debates and challenges! Your voice will count in making your event suitable to your needs!

Choose your involvement

During the first day, in the **debate**, you will be able to be part of one of the following 2 groups:

1. Debaters: 24 debaters will be subdivided into 6 groups of 4 people. There will be three contemporary debates. Each debater will have 4 min to speak.
2. Audience: the rest of the group will be subdivided into 3 groups to follow the debates. Each audience group will have to prepare at least 8 questions to ask the debaters for additional clarifications or input and provide social media coverage of the debate.

During the second day, in the **idea challenge**, you will be able to choose between:

1. Action teams working on online awareness campaigns on cybersecurity issues: around 50 participants will be subdivided into 10 teams. Each group will prepare a communication plan, and will start its implementation during and after the event (for at least 4 weeks).
2. Policy teams: 10 participants will work on 2 proposals on improving current cybersecurity EU legislation (a three-minute pitch deck and a 2-page memo detailing their proposals and analyses). In addition, teams will prepare a detailed action plan with the steps each participant will take when back home to promote their ideas to decision makers: you will discover that it is easy to share young people's voice with decision-makers by contacting an MEP or national representative.

Overall, your EGD experience will consist of:

1. 20-23 March 2022: 4 days in Szeged with 65 fellow Europeans where you will work in an international team to debate and design awareness campaigns or policy proposals!
2. During April - Early May 2022: participants are expected to carry out the activities planned during the event as a post-event experience. **The commitment will take no more than two hours per week.** The organizers will provide a detailed schedule with the

next steps that participants will be required to follow. It will be a key part of the project, the fulfillment of which will be **necessary to obtain the certificate of participation**.

3. Being active in real life and on social media to encourage more young people to have their voices heard! We'll be using these hashtags: *#EuropeansGoDigital #EGDSzeged #ChangeMakers2022 #EU #Youth #ActiveCitizens #Cybersecurity #EUDigital*

Logistics

1. All the events will be held physically in English in Szeged, Hungary (venue to be announced). No remote participation is possible.
2. After you will be selected, book your means of transport to Szeged on your own: we reimburse you up to 150 EUR! Regarding the transportation from Budapest to Szeged, you can check the [following train commute](#).
3. For the three nights of the conference, you will stay in shared rooms in a hostel provided and paid for by the organizers. Extra nights in Szeged have to be booked and paid for by you independently from organizers.
4. The meals announced in the agenda will be provided by the organizers and we will have a paid dinner all together at the end of the 2nd day of the conference.

What will you get from this event?

1. Participation in this event can be great for your personal and professional development... and for your CV! Active participation will allow you to develop soft skills employers are looking for: teamwork, critical thinking, public speaking, problem-solving are just a few skills you can develop in an international debate and idea challenge!
2. You will take back home not only networking opportunities for your future career, but also European friendships that can last a lifetime!
3. The satisfaction of knowing that you are contributing to building a better Europe for future generations.
4. You will go out of your comfort zone and discover new points of view, while creating civic initiatives and engaging with your peers and decision-makers!
5. Students who will have participated successfully in the event will obtain a certificate for their active and enthusiastic participation.



Are you one of us?

1. Are you a university student or a recent graduate (max. 1 year from graduation) from an EU country and/or a EucA college member?
2. Do you have passion or drive to make a change around you?
3. Do you enjoy or want to practice your social skills?
4. Do you enjoy debating and arguing your point of view?
5. More than a thinker, are you a doer eager to test ideas and engage people around you?
6. Are you ready to go out of your comfort zone and face new challenges internationally?
7. Are you willing to commit to a cause bigger than yourself, to spend your time and energy on making a better Europe?

If you said *Oh, yeah!* to at least one of these questions... we want to hear from you!

Selection & participation process

1. Send us your application by filling [in this Google form](#) by 23 January 2022 at 23:59 (Brussels Time). The selection will be done on a rolling basis, so hurry up not to miss your chance!
2. The final results will be announced on 26 January 2022 and you will have to confirm your participation by sending your transportation tickets by 9 February 2022 at 23:59 (Brussels time). In case of any question or need of support for booking your tickets, please contact us at info@euca.eu

Reimbursement policy

1. Please note that **only attendees who took part in the whole event can be reimbursed**. There are no reimbursements for no-shows (including for COVID-19 related reasons) or attendees who participate partially or skip sessions.
2. For all **transportation** expenses, you will get a **maximum of 150 EUR reimbursement**. After the event, you will have to send us receipts of your expenses and your bank account. Only amounts justified with receipts will be reimbursed, so please make sure not to lose any ticket. In any case, the maximum amount you will receive is 150 EUR. **Only economy class tickets will be refunded**.

3. **Arrivals will be expected during 20 March and departures expected on the afternoon of 23 March.** Please check the agenda to make sure you can be punctual.
4. When booking your transportation means, if there is no flexibility allowed for changes, please consider buying insurance. In any case, reimbursement for travel expenses is still up to 150 EUR.
5. We cover students' **accommodation** for the 3 nights of the conference (20 - 23 March): you will stay in shared rooms with other attendees in a hostel provided and paid for by the organizers. Extra nights in Szeged have to be booked and paid by you independently from organizers.
6. No reimbursement is foreseen for COVID tests (antigenic or PCR) or other related expenses.
7. More information on the reimbursement process will be provided after your conference attendance.

COVID Safety Protocols

All conference attendees, speakers and organizers will have to comply with national legislation which will be in force at the time of the conference by the Hungarian national and local authorities.

It will be the responsibility of the participants to be aware of the measures and requirements for traveling to and from Hungary. You can find useful information at the following link: <https://reopen.europa.eu/en>.

Cancellation policy

1. Considering the development of the pandemic due to Covid-19, if the organizers cancel the event, we will reimburse the travel expenses you will have booked and lost up to 150 EUR.
2. If you cannot attend the event, for any reason that is not linked to the organizers' decisions, you won't get reimbursed for your travel expenses.

For more information or if you want to say hi, please contact us at info@euca.eu

Version 1.0 - modified on 16.12.2021