

22.04.2025

ISSUE 3



Music of Youth - A Peace Building Approach

# my peace

## magazine

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GOOD PRACTICE

GUIDE AND

METHODOLOGY

HARNESSING

MUSIC FOR PEACE



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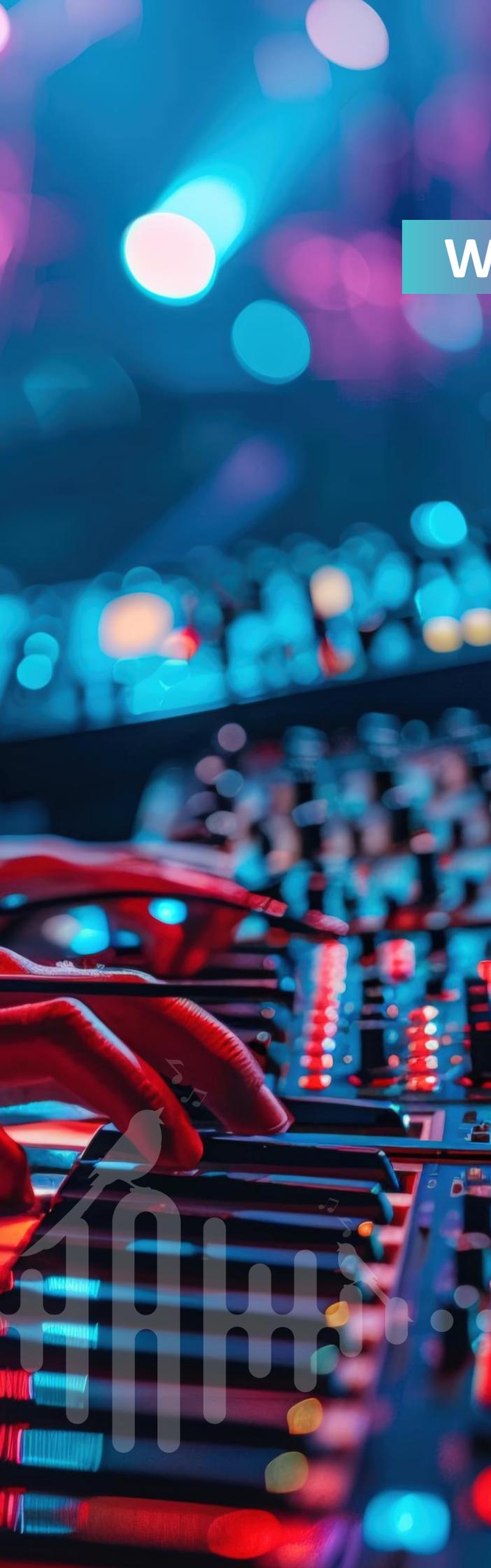


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# WELCOME

*Welcome to the third issue of our bi-annual ezine, a cornerstone of the "MUSIC for YOUTH - a PEACE building approach" (MY PEACE) project.*

Following our commitment to empowering European youth through music, this issue highlights the practical tools and methods we've developed to foster peace and understanding.

Building upon the foundations laid in previous editions, this issue introduces the MY PEACE Good Practices Guide and the project's methodology. These resources are designed to equip youth educators with effective strategies for using music as a catalyst for peacebuilding.

Inside, you'll find examples of successful initiatives from Ireland, Germany, Ukraine, France, Denmark, and Bosnia and Herzegovina showcasing the diverse approaches to music-based peace education. We delve into the methodology behind these practices, offering insights into their implementation and impact.

Join us as we explore these valuable resources, designed to inspire action and promote the transformative power of music in building a more peaceful and inclusive world. Welcome to a new chapter in our narrative of hope, education, and unity.

**Welcome to MY PEACE**



## Harnessing music for peace:

## Empowering young

## people across Europe

*As part of the MY PEACE project - an initiative that brings together music, education, and youth empowerment - we proudly introduce **two innovative resources** designed to drive forward peacebuilding efforts across Europe:*

01

A Peacebuilding Approach Roadmap

02

The My Peace Good Practices Guide

These tools offer innovative frameworks and real-life examples to inspire action and deepen impact through creative expression. Taken together, these two resources offer a powerful toolkit for anyone seeking to engage young people in peacebuilding through music. They

emphasize the importance of cross-sectoral collaboration, mentorship, advocacy, and innovation - showing how music can be used not only to express ideas but to shape them, to connect across difference, and to build a more inclusive and peaceful Europe.

01

## A Peacebuilding Approach Roadmap

This [comprehensive roadmap](#) provides youth educators, music professionals, peacebuilding stakeholders, and young people with a practical guide to using music as a transformative peacebuilding tool. Grounded in real experiences and co-created insights from across Europe, the roadmap outlines specific skills, methods, and areas for improvement tailored to each stakeholder group.

### KEY OBJECTIVES

- 01 To **empower youth and stakeholders** to take active roles in peace processes
- 02 To **produce music-driven peacebuilding content**, including 10 original productions
- 03 To **create a digital repository** to house tools, videos, and workshop outputs
- 04 To **promote long-term impact** through inclusive, cross-sectoral, and international collaboration

### WHAT'S INSIDE

- 01 Guidance for youth workers on using music for cultural dialogue, emotional healing, and social inclusion
- 02 Strategies for musicians and producers to integrate peace themes into their work
- 03 Tools for community engagement, mentoring, and festival planning
- 04 Insights on how to use media, technology, and cross-genre collaboration to amplify peace messages



This guide is a rich collection of innovative practices from six countries (Ireland, Germany, Ukraine, France, Denmark, and Bosnia and Herzegovina), showcasing how music-based initiatives can build bridges across cultures, foster social inclusion, and support communities affected by conflict or displacement.

### WHAT'S INSIDE

- 01 Inclusive music events, such as Ireland's Cruinniú na nÓg and Limerick's Irish World Music Café
- 02 Cross-border youth dialogues, like the Shared Island Youth Forum
- 03 Empowerment projects for marginalized voices - from Ukrainian youth orchestras to Muslim women-led initiatives in Germany
- 04 International collaborations, where music serves as both an educational and emotional tool for peacebuilding



***MY PEACE project***  
*- an initiative that brings together music, education, and youth empowerment*



FRANCE



## Empowering Invisible Youth: The G1000 i-YES Project

*Across Europe, many young people remain unseen and unheard, particularly those **not in education, employment, or training (NEETs)**. These "invisible" youth, often from marginalised backgrounds, face numerous barriers to social and economic inclusion.*

MY PEACE is inspired by projects that already work to engage young people, especially those that feel marginalised. The G1000 i-YES Project, initiated by the Roma Education Fund, aims to address these challenges by providing a platform for youth engagement, professional development, and cultural expression.

The importance of this initiative cannot be overstated. By bridging the gap between young people and decision-makers, the project fosters active participation in democratic processes, enhances educational and professional opportunities, and empowers youth to shape their own futures. Understanding and supporting such efforts is crucial in building an inclusive, equitable society where all individuals, regardless of background, can thrive.

## Topic

The G1000 i-YES Project is a two-year initiative designed to improve the representation of marginalised youth in European policy discussions. The project specifically focuses on NEETs from underprivileged neighbourhoods affected by poverty, unemployment, school dropout, and inter-religious conflicts.

Through a series of participatory education activities, expert meetings, workshops, and a youth summit, the project seeks to amplify young people's voices in decision-making. By integrating non-formal education, mobility programs, and professionalisation, G1000 i-YES ensures that these youth are not just passive recipients of aid but active contributors to society. More details about the project can be found [here](#).

## Outline of Research + Implementation Team

The G1000 i-YES Project was implemented by the Roma Education Fund in collaboration with five European partners. It was part of the European Youth Together Initiative and began on March 1, 2022. The project was conducted in Belgium, France, Italy, and Romania, specifically targeting areas with high levels of poverty and exclusion.

The research methodology employed was innovative and inclusive, combining non-formal education, mobility discovery, professionalisation, and active youth engagement. Cultural operators, musicians, social organisations, and researchers contributed their expertise to promote marginalised cultures and provide young participants with professional and personal development opportunities.

## Impact

The G1000 i-YES Project has made significant strides in empowering youth and fostering inclusion. It has led to the creation of a European network that supports and promotes "invisible" social groups, as well as the development of a Good Practice Guide showcasing effective European initiatives in youth empowerment. The project has mobilised cultural experts and social organisations to share knowledge and promote marginalised cultures while also empowering youth through cultural identity and public speaking training.

Additionally, it has engaged young participants in critical discussions, debates, and artistic expression, fostering a sense of agency and belonging among those who have historically been excluded from mainstream discourse. By addressing the lack of visibility and representation of marginalised youth, the G1000 i-YES Project paves the way for a more inclusive and democratic Europe. It fosters social cohesion by ensuring that young people, regardless of their socioeconomic status, have the opportunity to participate, contribute, and be heard. The project ultimately serves as a model for youth engagement, professionalisation, and active civic participation across the EU.

## Next Step

Download our [Peacebuilding Approach Roadmap here](#) to learn more and follow us on our social medias to be the first to hear the latest news.

## GERMANY



## National Action Plan Against Racism: A Commitment to Equality

*Racism and discrimination threaten the fabric of democratic societies, undermining human rights, social cohesion, and equality. Recognising these dangers, the **German government has implemented the National Action Plan Against Racism (NAP)** as a comprehensive strategy to counter prejudice, discrimination, and hate crime.*

This initiative underscores the state's commitment to upholding human dignity, as enshrined in the German Basic Law. Understanding and addressing racism is crucial, especially in today's polarizing global climate. Migrants, asylum seekers, and marginalised communities often face systemic discrimination, creating barriers to integration, employment, and social participation. The NAP aims to dismantle these barriers and create an inclusive society where every individual is treated with respect and fairness. This is also an objective of the MY PEACE Project.



## Topic

The National Action Plan Against Racism is a governmental initiative designed to combat racial discrimination, right-wing extremism, and other forms of exclusion. It aligns with Germany's commitment to international human rights and the prohibition of racial discrimination, as defined by global legal frameworks. The plan targets racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, anti-Roma sentiment, homophobia, and transphobia, reinforcing the need for a pluralistic society.

One of the key goals of the NAP is to strengthen civil society and promote democratic values, ensuring that racism and discrimination are actively opposed at all levels. It also addresses hate crimes, many of which remain unreported. As part of the initiative, Germany has conducted victimisation surveys to gather data on hate crimes, enabling authorities to take informed actions against racially motivated violence. To learn more, visit the official documentation: [Nationaler Aktionsplan Gegen Rassismus](#).

## Outline of Research + Implementation Team

The implementation of the National Action Plan Against Racism is spearheaded by the German Federal Government, particularly under the guidance of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women, and Youth (BMFSFJ). The Interministerial Working Group on the Promotion of Democracy and Prevention of Extremism (IMA) has played a crucial role in identifying key areas of action for the NAP. An empirical review of the initiative was conducted by the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research on Conflict and Violence (Bielefeld University).

The research focused on evaluating hate crimes, discrimination patterns, and the effectiveness of democratic participation in addressing racism. Additionally, the strategy aligns with the Federal Government's "Strategy for the Prevention of Extremism and the Promotion of Democracy", introduced in July 2016.

## Impact

The National Action Plan Against Racism has far-reaching implications for migrants, ethnic minorities, and marginalized groups in Germany. By implementing policies that address discrimination in housing, employment, and social participation, the NAP aims to ensure equal opportunities for all. A significant aspect of the plan includes the "Live Democracy!" program, which actively funds initiatives against right-wing extremism, violence, and misanthropy. For the first time, funding has also been allocated to combat homophobia and trans hostility, marking a progressive step in anti-discrimination efforts.

However, challenges remain. The categorization of certain nations such as Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia as "safe countries of origin" contradicts human rights reports and raises concerns about the fair treatment of asylum seekers. The NAP seeks to address such contradictions and advocate for policies that genuinely reflect Germany's commitment to human rights. Ultimately, the goal of the NAP is to create a more inclusive society where racism, prejudice, and discrimination are actively challenged. By continuously evaluating and improving anti-racism measures, Germany sets an example for other nations striving to uphold human dignity and equality.

## Next Step

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# BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA

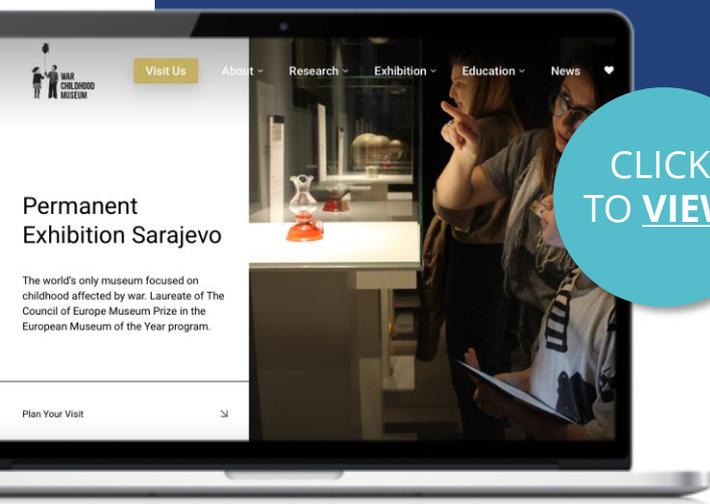
## War Childhood Museum:

## Preserving Memories, Promoting Peace

*The experiences of children in war often go unheard, yet their stories are crucial for understanding the human cost of conflict. The War Childhood Museum (WCM), based in Sarajevo, provides a unique perspective on the lives of children affected by war.*

By collecting personal artefacts, stories, and testimonies, this museum ensures that their experiences are not forgotten. This topic is important because childhood is a fundamental phase of human development, and conflict leaves lasting scars.

Understanding these impacts can guide peacebuilding efforts, influence policymaking, and promote social healing. The museum's work applies to various sectors, including education, history, humanitarian work, and psychological support services.



## Topic

The War Childhood Museum is dedicated to documenting and sharing the experiences of children who have lived through war. Founded in 2017, it serves as an educational and emotional space where visitors can engage with these narratives through immersive exhibits, storytelling, and music. Music plays a key role in the museum's approach, helping to evoke empathy and facilitate emotional healing.

The topic matters because war's effects on children extend far beyond the battlefield. Trauma, displacement, and loss shape their futures and, by extension, the societies they grow into. By shedding light on their stories, the museum fosters understanding and helps prevent the same mistakes from repeating in future generations. It also provides a safe space for children affected by war to express themselves, which is essential for their psychological well-being.

## Outline of Research + Implementation Team

The War Childhood Museum Foundation leads this project, bringing together historians, educators, psychologists, and artists. Their efforts focus on collecting testimonies, curating exhibits, and organising workshops.

The museum has received international recognition, including the Council of Europe Museum Prize (2018), highlighting its global impact. The foundation also collaborates with peacebuilding organisations, policymakers, and educators to integrate these stories into educational curricula and discussions about war and its consequences.

## Impact

The work of the War Childhood Museum has a profound impact on individuals, communities, and society at large. One of its key contributions is preserving historical narratives. By collecting thousands of artifacts and stories, the museum ensures that the experiences of war-affected children are not erased from history. Another significant impact is fostering empathy and dialogue. Interactive exhibits help visitors, including policymakers and educators, understand the deep emotional and psychological scars of war on children. Additionally, the museum provides emotional healing through its workshops, allowing children to express their experiences through art and music, helping them process trauma and find a sense of closure. Lastly, the museum plays a role in advancing peacebuilding efforts. By highlighting the resilience of children in conflict, it contributes to global conversations on peace and conflict resolution.

The War Childhood Museum serves as a powerful reminder of the resilience of children in war zones. Its work not only preserves history but also promotes healing, education, and peacebuilding. To learn more about their initiatives, visit their [official website](#).

## Next Step

Download our [Peacebuilding Approach Roadmap here](#) to learn more and follow us on our social medias to be the first to hear the latest news.

# UKRAINE



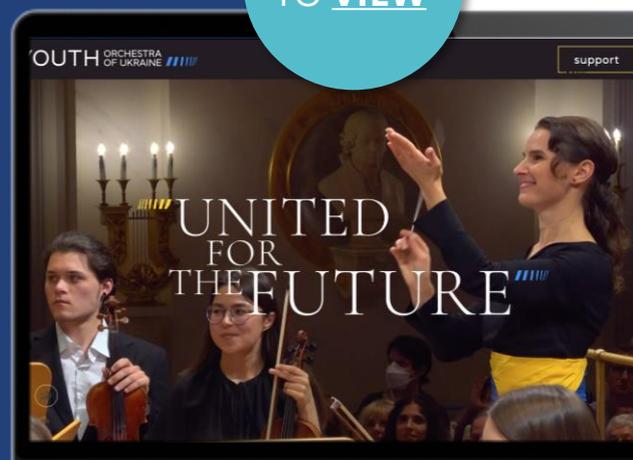
## The Power of Music: How the Youth Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine is the Future of Classical Music

*Music has long been a unifying force that transcends borders, cultures, and generations. For young musicians, access to professional-level training and international collaboration can be life-changing*

**The Youth Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine (YSOU)** is a prime example of how musical initiatives can nurture talent, promote cultural exchange, and enhance a country's presence in the global classical music scene. This initiative is particularly crucial for the arts sector, aspiring musicians, cultural institutions, and international symphonic collaborations. The work of YSOU offers a blueprint for supporting young artists while strengthening cultural diplomacy.



CLICK  
TO VIEW



## Topic

The Youth Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine provides a national platform for young Ukrainian musicians aged 12 to 22 who are proficient in orchestral instruments. The orchestra enables them to grow professionally and gain exposure to international musical standards. This matters because it fosters artistic development while helping young musicians connect with peers, mentors, and global audiences. YSOU plays a pivotal role in ensuring that Ukrainian classical music talent does not go unnoticed in the broader international music community.

YSOU has gained recognition for its commitment to excellence, offering its participants opportunities such as rehearsal camps, concert tours, master classes, and chamber music projects. These activities enhance not just their technical skills but also their adaptability and cultural awareness. By collaborating with international institutions, YSOU ensures that Ukrainian talent is nurtured and acknowledged worldwide.

## Who is Working on This Initiative?

The Youth Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine (YSOU), implemented and promoted by YSOU, is leading this initiative. The orchestra works in partnership with renowned European institutions to provide a global stage for its musicians. Some of its major collaborators include the **National Youth Orchestra of Germany**, the Goethe-Institut, and prestigious concert venues such as Konzerthaus Berlin and the Berliner Philharmonie. These collaborations enhance YSOU's ability to expose young musicians to world-class mentorship and performance opportunities.

Since its launch in 2017, YSOU has held numerous events, including international concerts, cultural exchanges, and professional training programs. The initiative focuses on peer learning, professional-level projects, and fostering cross-cultural dialogue. By integrating young musicians into real-world performance settings, YSOU ensures that they are well prepared for professional careers in the classical music industry.

## Impact

YSOU's impact extends far beyond individual musicians. The program has played a crucial role in strengthening Ukraine's cultural presence in the global classical music scene. By participating in international collaborations, YSOU musicians not only enhance their musical abilities but also gain valuable teamwork, adaptability, and cultural awareness skills.

Moreover, YSOU's efforts contribute to a broader cultural diplomacy strategy, showcasing Ukrainian talent on prestigious European stages and fostering artistic partnerships that promote mutual understanding. In times of geopolitical challenges, such cultural initiatives are essential in bridging gaps and maintaining Ukraine's visibility on the world stage. Through its inclusive and supportive environment, YSOU has successfully nurtured young musicians, fostered cultural exchange, and enhanced Ukraine's standing in the classical music world. This initiative serves as an inspiring model for other countries looking to develop and promote young musical talent on a global scale.

## Next Step

Download our [Peacebuilding Approach Roadmap here](#) to learn more and follow us on our social medias to be the first to hear the latest news.

IRELAND

Unlocking Creativity for a

New Generation: Cruinniú na nÓg

*Cruinniú na nÓg is a celebration of creativity for children and young people across Ireland.*

*Launched in 2018, this initiative offers over 750 free activities ranging from workshops to performances that inspire young people to explore their artistic talents and connect with their communities. Whether through circus skills, storytelling, or music, Cruinniú na nÓg encourages young minds to embrace their creativity.*



Supported by **RTÉ** and local authorities, the event also promotes social cohesion by connecting children from all over Ireland. Through its wide range of activities, Cruinniú na nÓg plays a vital role in fostering collaboration and shaping the creative future of Ireland's youth.

An annual event, **Cruinniú na nÓg** encourages children and young people across Ireland to engage with the arts and creativity.

It promotes participation in various creative fields such as music, theatre, circus skills, and coding. This event is significant because it fosters community engagement and cross-border connections, particularly through its Shared Island initiative, which connects young people from both sides of the Irish border.

This all-island programming enhances cooperation, cultural exchange, and inclusion. Cruinniú na nÓg is a crucial platform for nurturing Ireland's next generation of creative thinkers and artists.

The **Creative Ireland Programme**, in collaboration with local authorities and supported by RTÉ, has been at the forefront of Cruinniú na nÓg since its inception in 2018. Through partnerships with organisations like Irish Street Arts, Circus, and Spectacle Network (ISACS), the event has expanded annually. The programme's success is further supported by musicians from the Irish World Academy, such as Ewa Zak-Dyndal, and organisations like Doras Luimní, who emphasise the importance of arts for social inclusion. The outcomes include stronger community engagement and enhanced cultural cooperation.

## Impact

Cruinniú na nÓg has a significant impact on both participants and society by fostering creativity and social inclusion. The initiative empowers young people to explore their artistic talents through free activities, promoting cultural expression and enhancing their sense of belonging.

By connecting children from diverse backgrounds, including across the border, the event also nurtures local engagement, allowing communities to come together and celebrate creativity. Ultimately, Cruinniú na nÓg aims to shape the creative future of Ireland's youth, building stronger, more connected communities while providing young people with opportunities to express themselves and thrive.

If you are interested to learn more about wonderful initiatives supporting peacebuilding and integrated through music across Europe we will soon publish a compendium of good practices. Download our [ezine here](#), to learn more about what we have done to date and follow us on our social media to be the first to hear the latest news.

# DENMARK



## Bridging Cultures Through Music: The Impact of GLOMUS on Global Artistic Collaboration

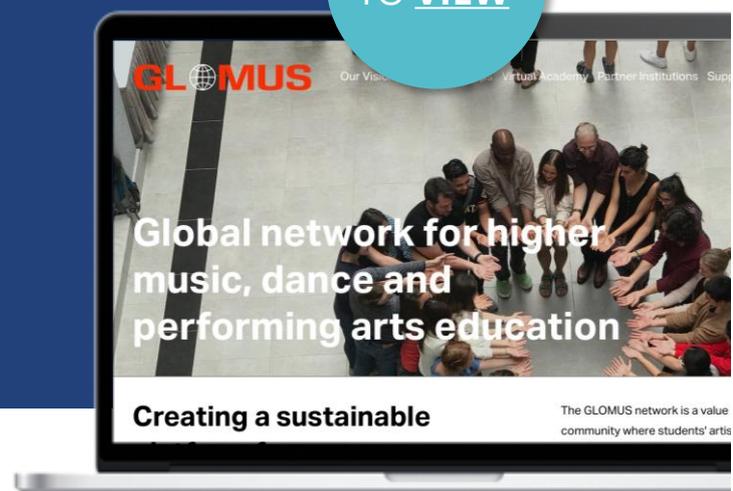
*In a world that is increasingly interconnected, cultural exchange and artistic collaboration play a crucial role in fostering understanding and unity.*

*The GLOMUS network is a shining example of how the arts, particularly music and performance, can be used to bridge cultural divides and address global challenges*

This initiative is particularly relevant to those involved in higher education, performing arts, and cultural diplomacy, including students, educators, artists, and policymakers. By creating a space for intercultural dialogue and artistic cooperation, GLOMUS is helping to shape a more harmonious and collaborative global society.



CLICK  
TO VIEW



## Topic

GLOMUS is a non-profit, value-driven network dedicated to higher education in music, dance, and performing arts. Established 15 years ago, it is primarily a Nordic initiative but has expanded significantly, encompassing participants from over 35 countries. The network focuses on artistic and personal growth, placing emphasis on intercultural dialogue and creative collaboration.

This initiative is significant because it provides a platform where young artists can explore cultural diversity and use their art as a means to address global issues. The GLOMUS network promotes creativity as a tool for dialogue and social change, making it an important contributor to global cultural development. Through artistic co-creation, the initiative fosters mutual understanding and innovative solutions to contemporary global challenges. [Learn more about GLOMUS here.](#)

## Who is Working on This Initiative?

GLOMUS is implemented and promoted by The Royal Academy of Music and The Danish National School of Performing Arts. These institutions have led the initiative by organizing various projects and events that encourage artistic exchange.

One of the most significant projects is the GLOMUS Camp, an event that brings together students, educators, and artists from around the world to participate in performances, debates, and creative workshops. A recent example is the 2022 GLOMUS Camp in Aarhus, Denmark, where around 200 students and educators from music and performing arts institutions participated in artistic collaborations and discussions about global issues. Themed “GLOBAL OPTIMISM”, this camp explored the ways in which young artists interpret cultural, political, and human challenges in a post-pandemic world. Additionally, GLOMUS has conducted local artistic engagements, allowing local communities to interact directly with visiting artists. These community-driven initiatives highlight the network’s commitment to making a real-world impact beyond just academic discussions

## Impact

The work of GLOMUS has had a profound impact on both individual participants and the broader cultural sector. By fostering intercultural collaboration, GLOMUS has created opportunities for young artists to develop their skills, expand their perspectives, and build international networks. Participants not only hone their artistic talents but also gain valuable skills in communication, adaptability, and teamwork.

Furthermore, GLOMUS has played an essential role in cultural diplomacy. By bringing together artists from diverse backgrounds, the initiative strengthens global ties and promotes unity through artistic expression. The GLOMUS model serves as an example of how the arts can be leveraged to address global challenges, encourage dialogue between cultures, and foster innovative solutions to contemporary social issues. As the initiative continues to grow, it is likely to inspire other cultural and educational institutions to develop similar intercultural and collaborative programs. With its commitment to artistic excellence and social engagement, GLOMUS stands as a powerful force for positive change in the global arts community.

## Next Step

Download our [Peacebuilding Approach Roadmap here](#) to learn more and follow us on our social medias to be the first to hear the latest news.



## MEET THE PARTNER

# INTERNATIONAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY

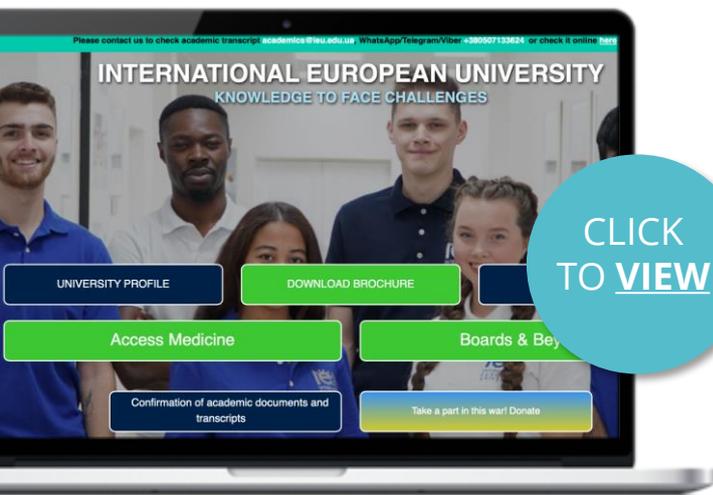
*International European University was founded on April 11, 2019, in Kyiv as an innovative and scientific centre promoting principles of academic integrity, transparency, student-centred learning, and professionalism based on global and national experience in the development of science and education, as well as training competitive and sought-after excellent specialists with a variety of acquired knowledge and competencies.*

The University is privately owned and trains students for both Ukraine and other countries. Taking into account that the main mission of every university is to fulfil its social responsibility, the form of the entity is Non-profit according to the decision of the owner.

IEU stands out as a dynamic educational institution, attracting students from over 60 countries and offering a diverse array of programs in medicine, business, engineering, and the humanities. Known for its inclusive and forward-thinking approach, IEU is more than just a university; it is a platform for developing global citizens.

Through its commitment to academic excellence and societal impact, IEU consistently demonstrates its ability to adapt to the demands of a globalized world. The university's focus on collaboration, research, and community engagement positions it as a key player in addressing societal challenges and fostering mutual understanding.

Through its active participation in the "My Peace" project, the International European University reaffirms its dedication to education as a force for good. The university's commitment to innovation, inclusivity, and social responsibility highlights its role as a global leader in higher education. By embracing music as a universal language, IEU is not only advancing the goals of the project but also inspiring a vision of a more peaceful and understanding world.





Music of Youth - A Peace Building Approach

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