



Future Mentors Follow-up Conference, Stuttgart, 27th – 28th November 2023

About the conference:

Starting in spring 2022 EUROCITIES member Espoo, Finland, initiated the Future Mentors Programme resulting in a European conference within the Eurocities network in June 2022. Through this programme all participants – city coordinators and politicians as well as the young people, the Future Mentors – profited from the exchange of ideas and perspectives. The young Future Mentors shared their views about the city of future: a city that is aligned with the needs of young people and that is flexible to adapt to future challenges.

This project and the format of participation is a successful and innovative step towards inclusive youth participation in decision-making processes. Therefore, the conference aims to take this concept a step further and continue the dialogue with last year's future mentors and decision makers, but also with any other young people, who are yet to discover the possibilities of participating in public policies and in local politics.

The conference is open to

- all interested young persons
- last year's Future Mentors
- youth coordinators in municipal authorities
- stakeholders in youth participation
- city leaders, mayors and political city representatives

Please register until 20 October 2023 [here](#).

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Sunday 26.11.2023

Arrival of participants – Informal get-together/dinner

Monday 27.11.2023

- 9:00 – 10:00 Welcome /Getting to know each other
- 10:00 – 10:15 Introduction: The idea behind the Future Mentors Programme
- 10:15 – 12:15 Workshop - Exchange on the Status Quo
- 12:15 – 13:15 Lunch
- 13:15 – 14:30 Workshop - How to continue the idea of the Future Mentors Programme?
→ Separate Workshops for future mentors and city representatives/coordinators
- 14:30 – 15:30 Keynote on democracy and youth participation
Prof. Dr. André Bächtiger
Managing Director of the entire institute, Vice Dean, Institute of Social Sciences,
Department of Political Theory and Empirical Democracy Research, Stuttgart
University
- Q&A
- 15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break
- 16:00 – 17:30 Panel discussion with city representatives and young mentors: How to integrate
youth into political decision-making and how to benefit from the youth's
perspective?
- 18:00 Official Welcome note
Isabel Fezer, Deputy Mayor for Education and Youth, City of Stuttgart
- Reception at Stuttgart City Hall

Tuesday 28.11.2023

- 9:00 – 9:30 Presentation/Input: European Year of Skills 2023 and EU Elections 2024
Dr. Renke Deckarm, Director Regional Representation Munich
- 9:30 – 10:30 Workshop - The EU & Me – Youth and Democracy in Europe
- 10:30 – 10:45 Coffee break
- 10:45 – 12:00 Food for thought with good practice examples
- 12:00 – 13:00 Design workshop “Future Mentors Eindhoven style”
- 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch
- 14:00 – 15:00 Conclusion
- 15:30 Optional programme: Visit of the Medieval and Christmas Market in Esslingen