

A Consultation of Organisations Led  
By Young Refugees, Exiled, Migrants,  
Asylum Seekers, and Undocumented-  
Y.R.E.M.A.S.U.D Across Europe.



# #Part Of Europe

Consultation and report by:  
**Adam Elsod and Alexandre Beddock**

# 22 million







This is the number of third-country nationals living in the EU. If they were in one country, it would be the 6th largest population size of the EU<sup>1</sup>, larger than the Netherlands or Romania. It would also be the country with the youngest population.

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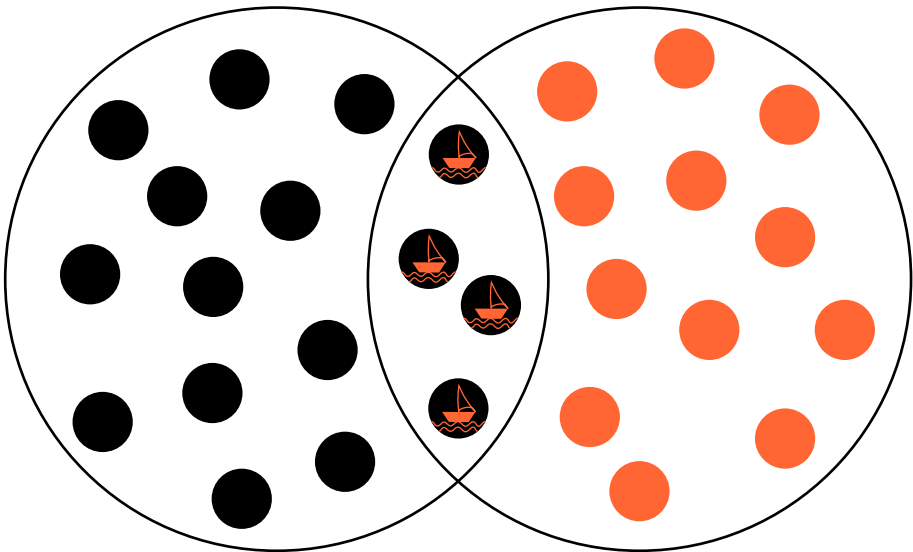
1 Based on the 2020 report of Eurostat “Migration and migrant population statistics - Statistics Explained”. Access 04/12/202: [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Migration\\_and\\_migrant\\_population\\_statistics](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Migration_and_migrant_population_statistics)



**Would you  
imagine  
The Netherlands  
being excluded  
from EU decision  
making?**

Introduction	<div data-bbox="211 81 426 371"></div> <div data-bbox="732 97 1005 355"></div>
Voicify	<div data-bbox="203 405 420 501">#1 Germany</div> <div data-bbox="787 405 949 501">#2 France</div>
#Part Of Europe	<div data-bbox="178 579 463 914"></div> <div data-bbox="710 616 1028 855"></div>
Challenges	<div data-bbox="266 954 374 1054">#3 Italy</div> <div data-bbox="801 962 936 1054">#4 Spain</div>
Recommendations	<div data-bbox="178 1123 463 1393"></div> <div data-bbox="742 1131 994 1393"></div> <div data-bbox="241 1406 437 1501">#5 POLAND</div> <div data-bbox="734 1406 997 1501">#6 YREMASUD</div>

Young persons with lived migration experiences, mentioned in this report as YREMASUD (Young Refugees, Exiled, Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Undocumented), mostly third-country nationals, are **too often excluded from political activities**. Worst, when included **they are tokenised** and asked to tell stories of their boat crossing, or of a miserable life, **instead of being treated as equal partners**. These dynamics are exacerbated when coupled with a different ethnicity or skin color.





**We want to  
participate and  
be represented  
so we can have  
a proper life,  
just equal to  
others**

This report is a result of the first EU-wide consultation process with organisations led by YREMASUD.

# YREMASUD

(noun) /waɪ-ɑːr-i-ēm-eĭ-ēs-juː-di/

DEFINED BY **VOICIFY**

Young Refugees, Exiled, Migrants,  
Asylum Seekers and Undocumented



# VOICIFY





# We are building an inclusive Europe where YREMASUD can shape policies that affect them.

Voicify is an initiative which fosters the political participation of **Y.R.E.M.A.S.U.D.** (Young Refugees, Exiled, Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Undocumented) led organisations from across the European Union. Our partners represent and work with tens of thousands of young persons with lived migration experiences.

Voicify is laying the foundations of **the first-ever European umbrella organisation of YREMASUD-led organisations.**

**Voicify is a partnership between two refugee-led youth organisations.**



The Young Republic is an award-winning refugee-led youth organisation aiming to build inclusive democracies in Europe through fostering the political participation and social inclusion of young refugees in their communities.



VYRE is an international network created by, with and for young refugees to share experiences and raise common concerns, acquire new skills and strengthen their capacities, to build social cohesion with intercultural learning as a base.

Voicify has been supported by the European Programme for Integration and Migration (EPIM), a collaborative initiative of the Network of European Foundations (NEF). The sole responsibility for the project lies with the organiser(s) and the content may not necessarily reflect the positions of EPIM, NEF, or EPIM's Partner Foundations.

# #PartOfEurope Consultation:

In 2021, Voicify and its partners carried out the first-ever consultation of YREMASUD-led organisations across the EU (active in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Malta, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden).

Self-led YREMASUD organisations are civil society organisations that are founded/co-founded and led/co-led by YREMASUD persons. YREMASUD organisations form a significant platform for these young persons to make their voices heard and defend their rights. Often, these organisations are the only way for public self-representation.

The partner organisations of this consultation have a wide range of structures in terms of organisational sizes, activities, methods, and focus, representing a diversity of persons with lived migration experiences. These organisations structure their work around different countries of origins, citizenship and residency statuses, and fields of work. The consultation targeted mainly youth-led organisations (Voicify defines “youth” as individuals under the age of 35 years old). It also included other organisations with a strong focus and participation of youth in their leadership and activities.

This consultation aimed to identify obstacles and barriers to full, effective, constructive and inclusive political participation of YREMASUD through their self-led organisations, and to provide concrete policy recommendations for relevant authorities, institutions and civil society organisations to address these challenges.

The consultation was conducted between September and November 2021 and was carried out through semi-structured interviews with 20 representatives of the partner organisations. The interviews tackled general aspects of the organisations' activities and their main political asks as well as obstacles and challenges that they face to exist and operate, to collaborate with other civil society organisations and to access support. The interviews also explored the solutions they have developed and the recommendations they would like to put forward to the authorities and other civil society organisations.

To ensure the full freedom of expression for the participating organisations, no details regarding the organisation's name or country of registration are attributed to the specific examples or quotes.

## Organisations consulted for the #PartOfEurope policy report:

Association des Etudiants Maliens d'Ile-de France (AEMIF) - **France**  
Association des Étudiants Péruviens en France (ASEPEF) - **France**  
Association des Marocains de France (AMF) - **France**  
Association Démocratique des Tunisiens de France (ADTF) - **France**  
Coordination des Sans-Papiers - **Belgium**  
Copenhagen Youth Network - **Denmark**  
Federación Asociaciones Colombianos en Catalunya - **Spain**  
Fédération des Etudiants Gabonais En France (FEGAF) - **France**  
Globally Connected - **Netherlands - Denmark - Germany - Austria**  
Newcomers With Disability - **Sweden**  
Spark15 - **Malta**  
The Greek Forum For Refugees - **Greece**  
The Support Group Network - **Sweden - Germany**  
The Young Republic (TYR) - **Sweden - EU**  
Voices of Young Refugees in Europe (VYRE) - **France - EU**  
WE Organisation - **Netherlands**

## Introduction



**CYN**

## Voicify



Fédération des Etudiants Gabonais de France



## #Part Of Europe



## Challenges

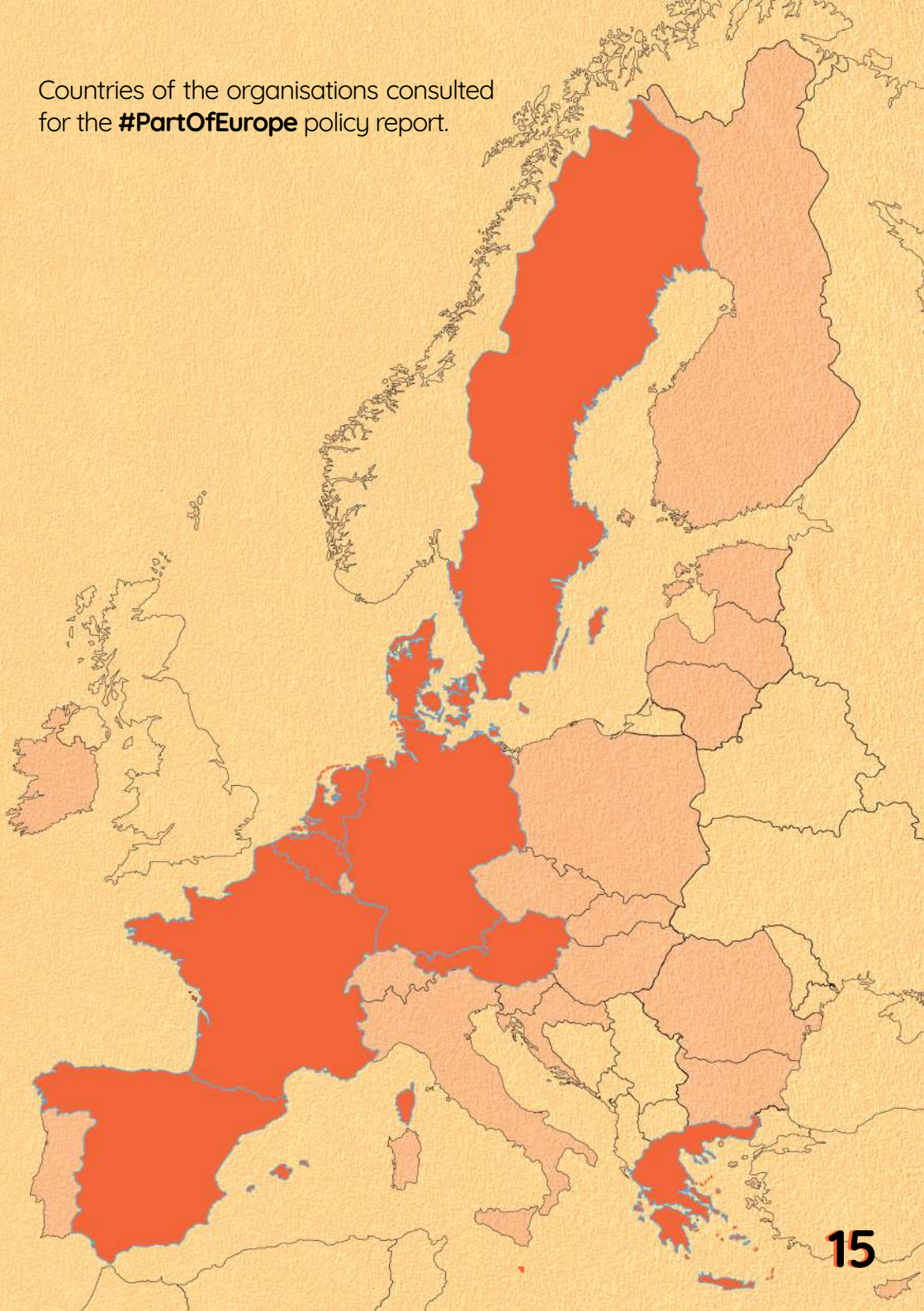


## Recommendations





Countries of the organisations consulted  
for the **#PartOfEurope** policy report.



# Why political participation?

Political participation can be defined as activities through which people develop and express their opinions on political affairs and try to take part in and influence the decisions that affect their lives. This is closely interlinked with the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and to the right to freedom of expression.

The realisation of these human rights is essential for all YREMASUD to express their needs, protect and defend all their civil, cultural, economic, political and social human rights. Given the interconnected and indivisible nature of human rights, restrictions on YREMASUD's freedom of association further hinder their full enjoyment of other human rights. Encouraging YREMASUD to organise empowers them to engage with the local communities directly and enables them to have a positive impact in the communities and countries in which they reside.<sup>2</sup>

In today's Europe, the day to day lives of millions of young persons with lived migration experiences are impacted by policies, regulations, laws, and decisions that are made without their involvement or input. This represents a fundamental democratic deficit across Europe at all levels (local, national and European). These groups who are most excluded from formal political activities, have an even greater need for alternative means of political participation<sup>3</sup>.

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2 Based on the 2020 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants: "Right to freedom of association of migrants and their defenders". Access 04/12/2021: <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/44/42>

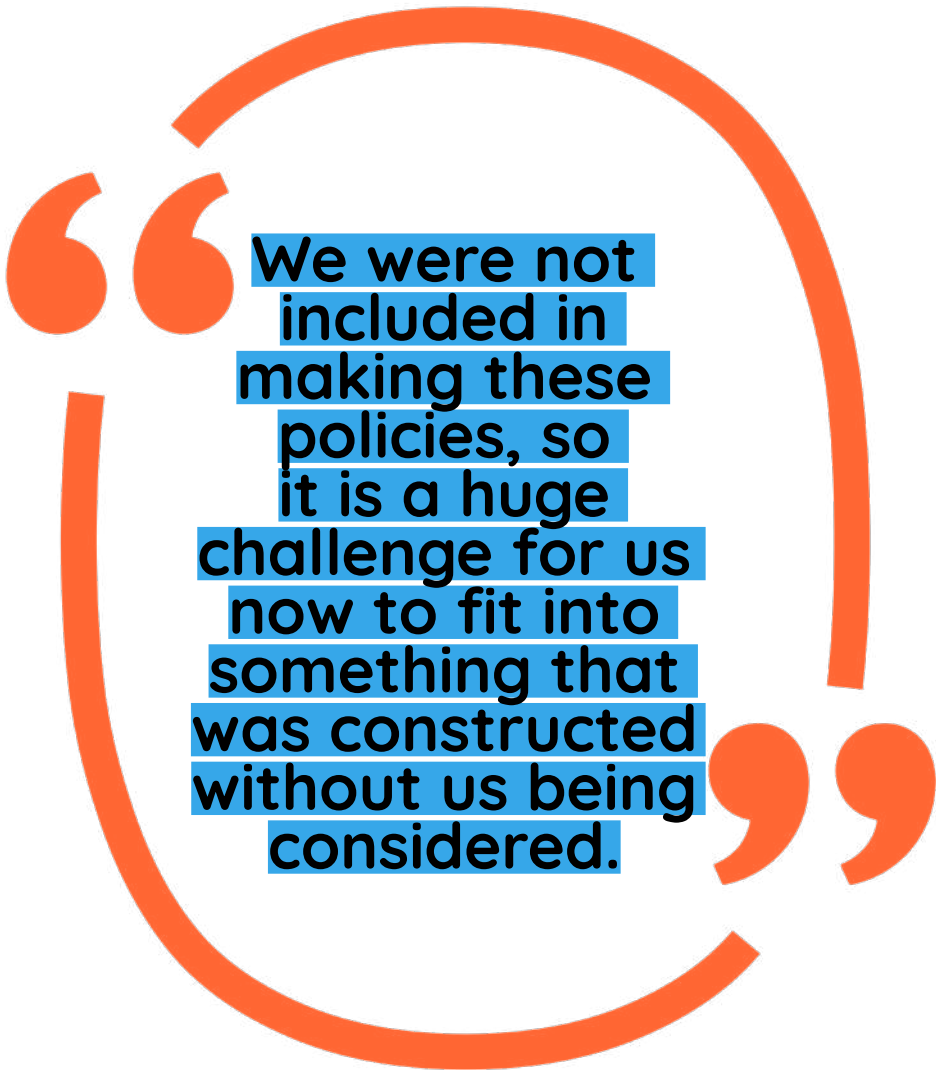
3 Based on the 2014 Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General: "Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development". Access 04/12/2021: [https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/hrc/regularsessions/session26/documents/a\\_hrc\\_26\\_29\\_eng.doc](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/hrc/regularsessions/session26/documents/a_hrc_26_29_eng.doc)

The realisation of human rights related to political and public participation play a crucial role in the promotion of democratic governance, the rule of law, social inclusion, and economic development, as well as in the advancement of all human rights. The right to participate in political and public life is important in empowering individuals and groups and is one of the core elements of human rights-based approaches aimed at eliminating marginalization and discrimination<sup>4</sup>.

The political participation of YREMASUD is key for sustainable, equitable and effective policies and programmes, and essential to guarantee the long-term inclusion of YREMASUD. It also ensures responsibility-sharing between policy-makers, local communities, and YREMASUD.

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4 Based on the 2020 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants: “Right to freedom of association of migrants and their defenders”. Access 04/12/2021: <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/44/42>



We were not included in making these policies, so it is a huge challenge for us now to fit into something that was constructed without us being considered.

# Main challenges/

Consultation Findings

The consultation identified the main challenges that YREMASUD-led organisations face. These challenges form a threat to the realisation of human rights that are crucial for full, effective, constructive and inclusive political participation, namely the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association and the right to freedom of expression.



# 1- The Iceberg

Organisational  
Challenges

Individual struggles,  
collective limitations

Shrinking Space  
for YREMASUD  
Organisations

Systemic  
racism

Perpetuating a  
vicious status quo

Nationalism

European  
supremacy

Other forms of  
discrimination



**European supremacy, nationalism, systemic racism and other forms of discrimination** are described by the organisations as the root causes of two **mainstream discourses** on persons with lived migration experiences. These challenges are exacerbated for racialised persons. Participating organisations stated that these challenges are also faced by other persons with migrant backgrounds, who are not included in this consultation.



Introduction	<div data-bbox="128 87 614 135" data-label="Section-Header"> <h2>The threat discourse:</h2> </div> <div data-bbox="128 140 837 368" data-label="Text"> <p>Persons with lived migration experiences are considered as having opposing values to those of the “European way of life”. They are perceived to be potential “security risks” associated with criminality, such as “radicalisation and extremism”, and thus used as scapegoats.</p> </div>
Voicify	<div data-bbox="128 454 631 502" data-label="Section-Header"> <h2>The charity discourse:</h2> </div> <div data-bbox="128 507 796 655" data-label="Text"> <p>Persons with lived migration experiences are considered to be passive recipients of aid and in perpetual need of help, leading them to be infantilised by several external actors.</p> </div>
#Part Of Europe	
Challenges	
Recommendations	

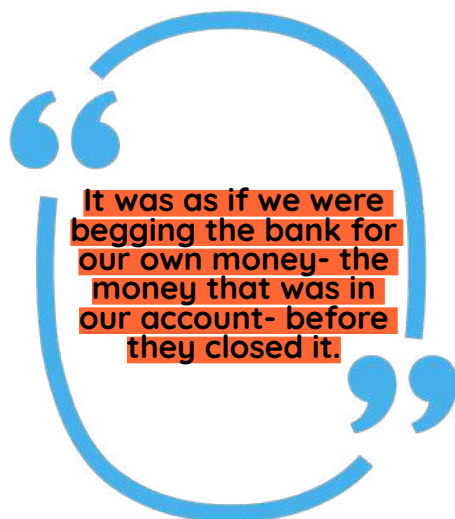
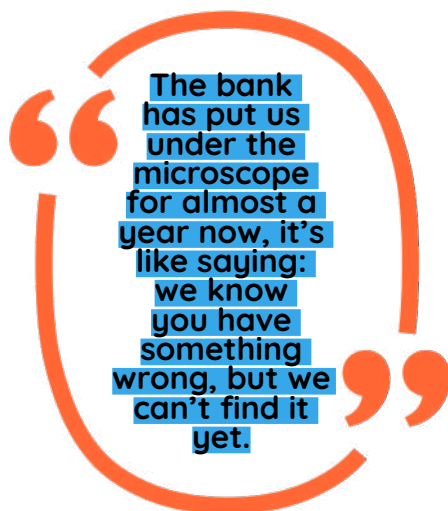
Participating organisations mentioned that the threat discourse is likely to be used by the authorities, while the charity discourse is predominant within civil society organisations, which end up offering responses that do not go beyond initial or basic humanitarian needs, perpetuating a vicious cycle that blocks equal participation.

Together with these discourses, migration policy making, at both the national and EU levels, has been shaped by a framework of perpetual emergencies and crises, both real and manufactured, as well as the perception that persons with lived migration experiences are in the EU only “temporarily”. There is a widespread denial or refusal to acknowledge that these persons, and their organisations, are an integral part of Europe. A part that has been long underappreciated and ignored. In addition, the political instrumentalisation of certain situations at the EU borders, linked to the trend in the political discourse to mix different realities related to migration, and forced displacement, has been used to polarise communities and discussions. This has limited the capacity to develop policies and programmes that should respond to different needs and to identify paths towards the realisation of all human rights of all individuals, regardless of their migration status, while promoting inclusion and social cohesion.

## 2 - Shrinking Space for YREMASUD Organisations

Several organisations reported limitations to their work from different authorities. More restrictive permissions to operate are being introduced. They limit YREMASUD organisations' abilities to function and conduct activities. These also apply to migrant-led organisations in general.

The most concrete tool that is deployed against almost all organisations is continuous and disproportionate scrutiny by the banks. This scrutiny includes unjustifiable closing down of bank accounts for organisations with existing funds in the accounts for ongoing projects, refusing to open accounts for organisations despite several years of registration and fulfillment of all legal requirements, or months-long repetitive reviews of the accounts almost on yearly basis.



Another example is the pre-conditioning of funds based on disempowering and harmful discourses. Some organisations stated that the only funds available to them from local/ national authorities as YREMASUD organisations were those that are oriented to anti-radicalisation work.

In this environment, it is becoming more difficult to self-organise and assemble. YREMASUD organisations also reported the discriminatory practices by public servants who have delayed the registration process or asked for extra requirements such as insisting on having “ethnic” nationals from the country where they are registered on the board of the organisation. In addition, language barriers coupled with the stereotyping of people with “foreign accents” often limit their ability to communicate with authorities and to benefit from adequate services and advice.

Many organisations also shared that their right to freedom of expression is limited by the fear of losing funding or being denied permissions. This has already prevented them from taking political stances or criticising policies or authorities.

“The municipality stopped allocating us public funding after we took part in the campaign against the war in Iraq.”

“Our activities were severely limited because the only fund that was available to us was on extremism or the so-called “de-radicalization”

### 3- Organisational Challenges

YREMASUD face many obstacles when it comes to creating and running self-led organisations. The participating organisations stated that these difficulties are increasing in recent years, and are exacerbated for them by systemic racism and other forms of discrimination.

In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic has had long-lasting impacts on civil society organisations in Europe, and YREMASUD organisations are not an exception. Several participating organisations were founded around or after 2015. They did not exist for enough time to have presence, members, plans, activities, and to find their own path and focus. Therefore, the uncertainties brought by the pandemic hit them dramatically.

#### Administrative Obstacles

- Difficulty in registration and formalisation of organisations  
This is notably because of the difficulty in accessing information on how to start an organisation, or how to file tax reports, amongst other administrative procedures and obligations. In addition, in some countries, high costs are associated with registering an organisation, which YREMASUD can not typically afford.

- Difficulty in accessing venues for activities  
This can be explained by budgetary limitations, or because public venues and spaces are usually available only during working hours, which can be incompatible with volunteer-run organisations. Participating organisations reported that they also suffer from discrimination that involves extra scrutiny when requesting to use or to rent a venue.



## Funding

Funding is the most common challenge facing YREMASUD organisations. Many report recent cuts of funding from public entities.

### - Constrained financial abilities

Often, organisations need to operate with very limited or no funding. Many organisations rely only on volunteer work, donations and membership fees, but because of economic challenges, the number of paying members of several organisations are limited, which further constrains their budget. They also rely financially on events where they collect donations, establish partnerships and sponsorships. The inability to hold physical events during the pandemic limited one of their main sources of funding.

### - Lack of migration-related funding

As migration is losing traction as a political priority, the funding opportunities are shifting to other issues than migration and inclusion. are usually available only during working hours, which can be incompatible with volunteer-run organisations. Participating organisations reported that they also suffer from discrimination that involves extra scrutiny when requesting to use or to rent a venue.



- Inaccessibility and inadaptability of funding opportunities

Whilst there are existing funding opportunities in the youth field, almost all organisations shared that these are often inaccessible, lengthy and too bureaucratic. Their rigid requirements and processes are not adjusted to YREMASUD needs, to their realities and the challenges they face, including due to their limited resources. In addition, many funders consider YREMASUD organisations too small to fund.

- Lack of information and transparency about funding processes

Whilst finding the information related to funding can be challenging, YREMASUD organisations also reported having received little or no feedback when their applications were rejected.



## Staff and Volunteers

Because of the challenges of accessing funding, among other reasons, many YREMASUD organisations are forced to rely on volunteers, which creates numerous challenges:

- Requiring enormous time for volunteer management and organisational development

There are internal and administrative challenges to attract, recruit, motivate, train and manage volunteers. Such efforts require a lot of time and resources. This affects the availability of those in leading positions to ensure the overall management and development of the organisation.

- Preventing YREMASUD organisations to work sustainably with long-term prospects

Due to the high turnover of volunteers, organisations can work mainly on short-term projects, while systemic change takes years to happen. This prevents them from developing concrete policy recommendations and long-term, sustainable interventions to address the challenges that YREMASUD are facing. It also limits the visibility of the organisation and its ability to be “attractive to funders”.

Many YREMASUD organisations are entirely based on volunteers. The pandemic had a severe negative impact on the economic, social and cultural rights of YREMASUD persons, which meant that many were no longer able to continue to contribute to and engage within their organisations.

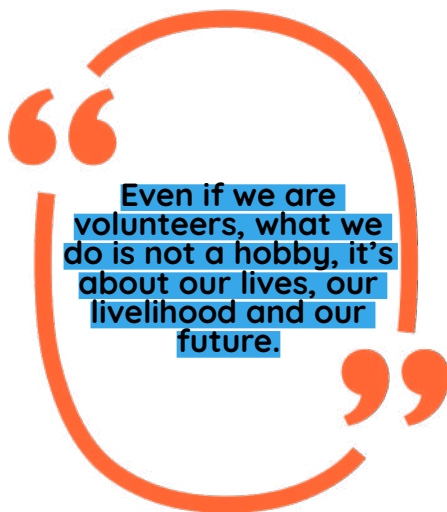
## 4- Individual Struggles, Collective Limitations

Many YREMASUD across Europe face exclusion, systemic racism and other forms of discrimination in realising their human rights on a daily basis.

- Racism and prejudice described by YREMASUD trap them in vicious cycles of othering and exclusion, jeopardising social cohesion;
- The regularisation of residency status and access to citizenship are key challenges faced by YREMASUD, which limit their ability to participate politically, economically and socially;
- Several organisations shared the challenges they face in engaging YREMASUD women and girls in their activities and programmes. Indeed, whilst it is challenging to reach out to YREMASUD in general, these challenges seem exacerbated for women and girls. At the same time, YREMASUD women and girls are leaders and founders of some of the self-led organisations involved in this consultation.
- Certain groups such as YREMASUD persons with disabilities and LGBTQI+ persons are often invisible in migration policy and debate, despite facing a magnitude of challenges and structural discrimination.

These existential challenges to many YREMASUD keep them in precarity and struggling for survival. This results, among other things, in not having the mental availability nor the time or energy to participate in civil society and political life.

## 5- Recognition and Visibility



Several YREMASUD organisations shared their experiences of not being taken seriously as partners by other civil society organisations, funders, and the authorities. Their work is not acknowledged as professional enough but rather “considered as a hobby” that is supposed to be done for free. They don’t feel that they are considered to be a part of Europe and of European civil society.

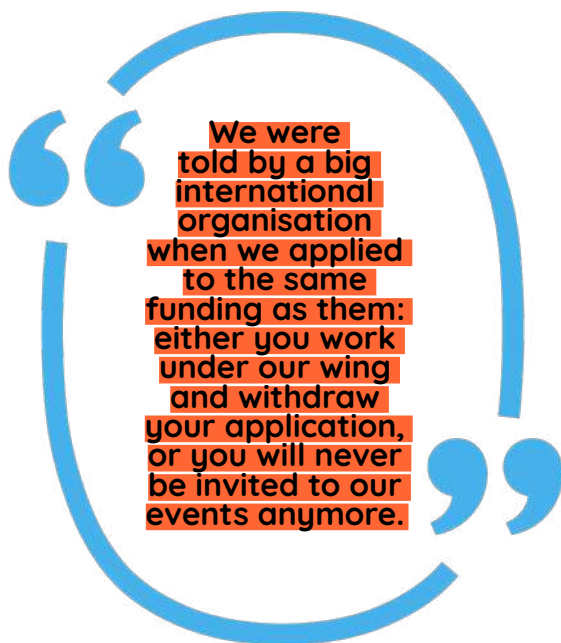
YREMASUD organisations stated that their intersectional aspects, along with their expertise beyond migration and diversity are often overlooked, with many feeling pigeon-holed as being qualified to speak only on these issues, with recognition or invitations only relating to their cultural or ethnic capacity, not their professional ones.

In addition, authorities and established organisations often invite the same individuals to debate within forums and consultation processes, rather than representatives of diverse YREMASUD organisations. These individuals, who might have lived migration experiences, often lack the representation and accountability to a wider community that organisations have.

Most YREMASUD organisations mentioned that recognition and visibility often go to other non-YREMASUD organisations, who continue to work with YREMASUD persons, instead of to YREMASUD organisations themselves. For example, some participating organisations mentioned that branches of international organisations working for migrants and refugees openly lobbied local authorities to block permissions of YREMASUD organisations operating in the same city to prevent them from competing for the same funding.

## 6- Perpetuating a Vicious Status Quo

All YREMASUD organisations shared the difficulties of being included in the civil society ecosystems at the local, national, or European level, including accessing funding, influencing opportunities, debate, media presence, or other types of support.





They may even be intentionally excluded from that ecosystem by established organisations, perceiving them as beneficiaries rather than partners or as competition to their work and funding on migration and inclusion.

As a result, YREMASUD organisations often lack the opportunities to grow and become more established, which in turn blocks them from the funding, credibility and partnerships they require to grow. YREMASUD organisations are perceived as not being professional and established enough to be trusted to fund or work with equally.

It is a vicious cycle many organisations described: being excluded from the opportunities needed to “become worthy of inclusion” by the established organisations and funders.

Introduction				
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# Recommendations

Consultation Findings

The following recommendations are proposed as a means of advancing the political participation of YREMASUD organisations, as well as organisations led by persons with lived migration experiences. It is important to bear in mind that YREMASUD organisations are not a monolith, and that involving these organisations needs to take into account their plurality and the diversity of opinions, which only reflects the wider variety of migrant communities and groups.

European governments are already committed and obligated to do better than they currently do, with multiple conventions and charters relevant for advancing the political participation of YREMASUD organisations, including, but not limited to:

- Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life;
- Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 on participation of children and young people under the age of 18;
- Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)4 on supporting young refugees in transition to adulthood;
- Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;
- Revised European Social Charter;
- Council of Europe Convention on the Participation of Foreigners in Public Life at Local Level;
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC);

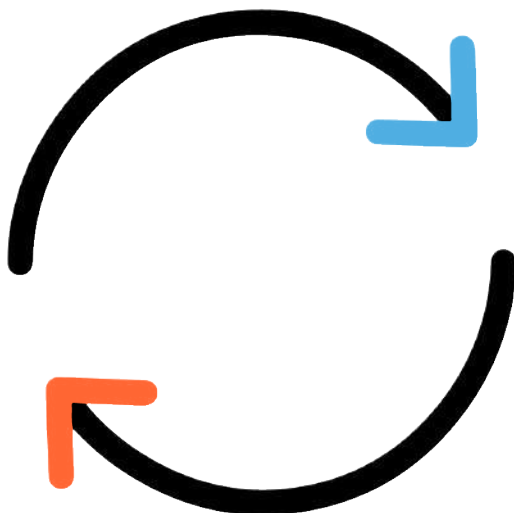
We hope that these commitments and recommendations can trigger a wider consultation between European policy makers and youth organisations led by YREMASUD to begin the long-overdue task of improving their political participation.

# Recommendations to local, national and European institutions

## Change the approach .

- YREMASUD organisations should be recognised as an integral part of Europe and as equal partners with agency. Any cooperation with YREMASUD organisations must be done in a way that is dignified and with equal power-relations;
- The involvement of YREMASUD organisations and their full and meaningful participation in policy processes should be institutionalised as a policy in public institutions, and subject to the accountability of their own internal institutional self-assessment and evaluation;
- Public institutions should acknowledge the intersectionality of experiences of YREMASUD organisations, and should involve them for their technical expertise in different policy areas that affect them, not limited to migration-related issues, and not only as persons with lived migration experiences and personal stories to tell;
- Public institutions must refrain from tokenising and instrumentalising YREMASUD for political endeavours, and public officials must refrain from spreading disinformation and inciting violence and hate speech. This can be enforced through regular feedback from the YREMASUD groups with whom they engage;
- Public institutions should keep at the centre of any migration and integration policies the human rights of those in the most vulnerable situations, including persons with disabilities, LGBTQI+ persons and persons belonging to minorities;

- Migration and integration policies should be more gender sensitive, and aim to promote and protect human rights and foster the wellbeing of YREMASUD, through mainstreaming better living conditions, for example through tailor-made integration programmes adapted to personal needs and circumstances;
- In order to ensure that public institutions fulfil their commitments in deeds and not just words, they should include YREMASUD inclusion and participation targets in their internal monitoring and evaluations goals, which should be shared publicly;
- Migration discourse should be framed by acknowledging its underlying global factors, such as global inequalities, the climate catastrophe, repressive dictatorships, and the contribution of the arms trade to conflict. The European Union is committed to a rights-based approach, which should supplant the discourse of security and economic utilitarianism that dominates policy making. Humanitarian responses to emergency situations should not displace this rights-based approach;



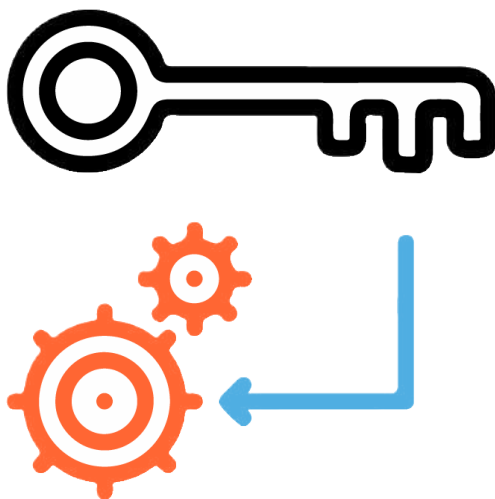
Introduction	<div data-bbox="128 86 723 121" data-label="Section-Header"> <h2>Ensure equal administrative treatment</h2> </div> <div data-bbox="128 164 1047 314" data-label="Text"> <p>- The registration of YREMASUD organisations should be made more accessible, namely through simplification of the rules and procedures, easing access to information, and ensuring translations into different languages;</p> </div>
Voicify	<div data-bbox="128 357 1028 507" data-label="Text"> <p>- The creation of bank accounts for YREMASUD organisations should not be more complicated than for other organisations, this could be carried out in accordance with European non-discrimination law;</p> </div>
#Part Of Europe	<div data-bbox="128 588 1056 777" data-label="Text"> <p>- The access of YREMASUD organisations to meeting rooms and offices should be facilitated, through municipalities or other entities, in a way that would be accessible for volunteers. In this context, it would be important to have reduced or no fees, as well as to adjust opening hours.</p> </div>
Challenges	<div data-bbox="360 956 797 1396" data-label="Image"> </div>
Recommendations	

## **Foster access to funding and organisational development opportunities**

- Funding should be more available and accessible at local, national, and European levels for YREMASUD organisations. Such funding should be more flexible, long-term and structural/operational, and earmarked for YREMASUD organisations. Accompaniment throughout application, implementation and reporting should be provided. Funding applications should be reviewed in a fair and transparent manner, and feedback for improvements should be provided in case of rejection;
- Seed-grants should be available and accessible, as an important tool to support informal groups to formally organise, along with new organisations, to cover basic necessities, such as registration costs or website;
- The youth field funding providers, like the National Agencies responsible for the EU Youth Programmes (Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps) and the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe, should strengthen their efforts to reach out to YREMASUD organisations. In addition, and in order for these programmes to have a concrete impact in local communities, their funding requirements and processes should be adapted to become more accessible and easy to implement by these youth organisations;
- The age limit that defines youth in the EU and the Council of Europe funding and activities should be extended, in all actions, to 35 years old to be inclusive of YREMASUD and other groups that face a multitude of structural challenges, which prolong reaching full autonomy as adults. This would allow more youth organisations to apply for funding from the EU youth programmes, and more persons to access training opportunities;



- Information about training opportunities for organisations should be more accessible to YREMASUD organisations; capacity-building of the ones engaged in the organisations is crucial, amongst other things, for organisational sustainability, personal and professional development and networking. More tailor-made training programs and better support to participation, including by covering all costs are needed; Co-leadership and equal partnerships with YREMASUD organisations should become a prerequisite for funding applications for projects working with YREMASUD groups.



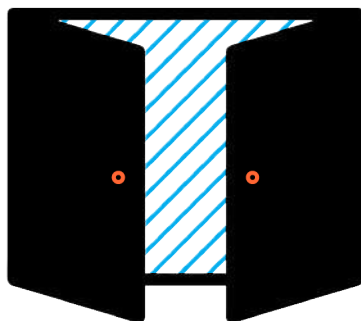
## **Promote inclusive, representative, and democratic governance**

- Full and meaningful participation in all stages of policy-making, and at all levels, should be ensured and supported by the institutions, and structured through consultative councils as mentioned in the Convention on the Participation of Foreigners in Public Life at the Local Level. These consultative councils should always include YREMASUD organisations, and the participation of young persons must be ensured and mainstreamed;
- YREMASUD organisations should be included in the same processes targeting European youth organisations, on the European, national and local levels, such as in the framework of municipal and national youth councils and in the EU Youth Dialogue and the European Youth Event. Participation in these events should not be exclusive to citizens and support should be available to YREMASUD to participate (including covering transport and accommodation for participants);
- Different methods should be considered and supported to ensure the meaningful participation of YREMASUD organisations in different democratic spaces, like regional youth parliaments, and initiatives promoted by the European Economic and Social Committee.



# Recommendations to Non-YREMASUD Civil Society Organisations

YREMASUD organisations are an integral part of civil society in Europe. In the following recommendations we use the word civil society organisations to refer to non-YREMASUD organisations.



## Open-up to YREMASUD Organisations and Groups

- Membership rules for YREMASUD organisations and groups in networks and umbrella organisations should be made more accessible (taking into account the specific barriers they face). Adequate support should also be available to them when joining these spaces;
- Spaces should be dedicated for YREMASUD groups and individuals within these organisations (such as trade unions and students unions), and their equal and meaningful representation should be ensured, including in key and leading roles;
- Civil society organisations should not speak about YREMASUD, nor on their behalf, without their active participation;
- Political parties should reach out to YREMASUD persons and organisations and include them in their membership base, specially through their youth wings and party-affiliated youth organisations.

## **Advance Equal Partnerships**

- Civil society organisations should work with YREMASUD organisations, not “for them” or on their behalf. Partnerships must always be on equal terms, and the YREMASUD organisations should be involved in all phases, from defining the priorities and the design of the partnership, to its implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- Civil society organisations should be flexible and adapted to the realities of YREMASUD organisations when working in partnerships, such as avoiding exploitation of volunteer work in volunteer-based organisations;
- Civil society organisations should allow the space for YREMASUD organisations to be the main applicants in funding applications for partnership projects. This would lead to developing their capacity to manage funds, strengthen impact and ownership, as well as being able to apply for future funds;
- Civil society organisations should recognise the value of YREMASUD work and input, and the need for it to be compensated;

Introduction	<div data-bbox="128 92 612 127" data-label="Section-Header"> <h2>Support Capacity Development</h2> </div> <div data-bbox="128 170 1064 282" data-label="Text"> <p>Civil society organisations can play an active role in contributing to the development of YREMASUD organisations capacities and their path towards autonomy, through:</p> </div>
Voicify	<div data-bbox="128 327 1027 435" data-label="Text"> <p>- Supporting YREMASUD organisations by sharing knowledge and best practices on opportunities, administrative, legal, and organisational matters;</p> </div>
#Part Of Europe	<div data-bbox="128 478 1010 588" data-label="Text"> <p>- When possible, facilitating YREMASUD organisations interactions with authorities for registration, permissions and bank account issues;</p> </div> <div data-bbox="128 632 975 705" data-label="Text"> <p>- When possible; supporting advocacy asks of YREMASUD organisations;</p> </div> <div data-bbox="128 748 1008 821" data-label="Text"> <p>- Sharing logistical and physical resources like office spaces, event venues, equipment and supplies;</p> </div> <div data-bbox="128 865 1008 938" data-label="Text"> <p>- Supporting YREMASUD organisations to access media and visibility opportunities;</p> </div>
Challenges	<div data-bbox="128 981 1048 1091" data-label="Text"> <p>- Redistributing resources to YREMASUD organisations through re-granting schemes that are designed as a partnership rather than on donor-beneficiary basis.</p> </div>
Recommendations	<div data-bbox="386 1126 794 1535" data-label="Image"> </div>

# Recommendations to YREMASUD organisations

## Work under a representative umbrella organisation

- All participating organisations in this consultation process call on YREMASUD organisations to join forces, develop more synergies to work together and build a representative body.

## Strengthen Solidarity

- Participating organisations recognise that given the scarcity of resources, they must work in solidarity rather than in competition. In order to grow sustainably, they have to build solidarity networks, share information, knowledge and skills, work in partnerships and support each other in the professionalisation of their staff/volunteers through training courses, networking opportunities and exchanges;

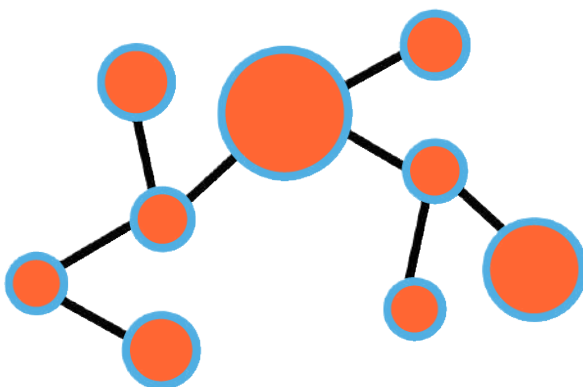
- Participating organisations call YREMASUD organisations to work collaboratively to build the capacities of more YREMASUD trainers, advocates, and experts in different fields;

- YREMASUD organisations should support their interests and the ones of YREMASUD, and advocate and be vocal in defending them. They should acknowledge their right to an equal existence in Europe, and not adapt to the disempowering discourses of the status quo nor accept being treated unequally;

- YREMASUD organisations should recognise the value of their work and input, and the need for it to be acknowledged and compensated, and never accept that it may be considered as a hobby or extracted as free labour.

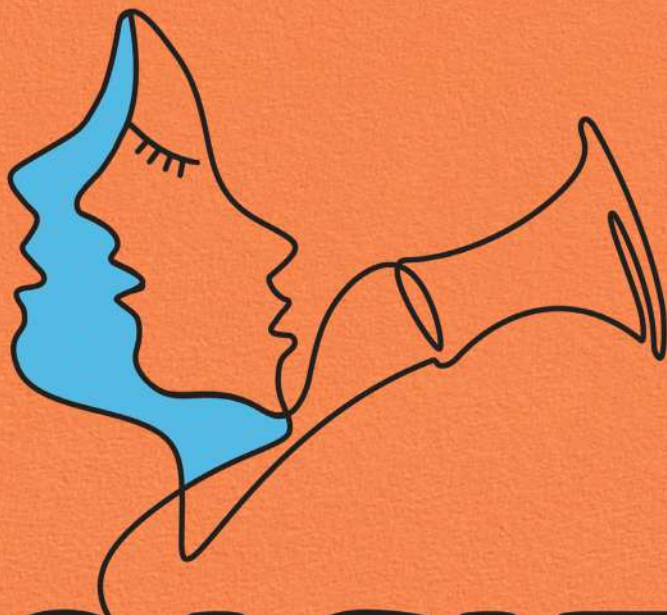
## Build wider and intersectional alliances

- YREMASUD organisations need to build wider and intersectional alliances with social inclusion causes, including feminist, LGBTQI+, Roma, persons with disabilities, and any other group working for social inclusion;
- One of the current and future root causes of migration is climate change, therefore, YREMASUD organisations should join the global efforts against the climate catastrophe;









# VOICIFY

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**We are YREMASUD-led organisations.**  
**We are #PartOfEurope.**