

Kartalla

– findings on European youth programmes

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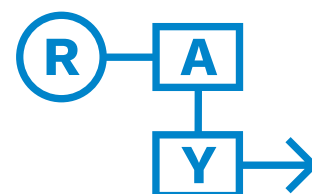
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European youth programmes have diverse long-term effects on young people's lives

- Participation in European youth programmes can have diverse long-term effects on young people's lives. These effects are still visible eight years after the project.
- The young people said that their participation had increased their interest in Europe and the European Union.
- Participation in the projects increased interest in international cooperation as well as the courage and self-confidence to work with different people.
- The young people said that they had acquired a wide range of new attitudes, information, and skills.
- The Finnish young people participated in short-term projects, such as youth exchanges. Considering the short duration of the projects, the long-term effects of the projects are very significant and permanent.



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"I only understood the significance and impact a little later. It's possible that had I not participated in the project, I wouldn't have studied to become a youth worker or wouldn't be working with international affairs."

"I feel that these kinds of things are always, in some way, good for your social skills."

"I think that it helped me understand different ways of living in the EU. You were given an opportunity to meet people and realise that they are not so different from us here in Finland."

"It was my first introduction to this theme. There are other people and countries in the world that are just like me. (...) That's when I realised that 'hey, I'm not alone here!'"

RAY Network survey:

RAY research project on Long-term Effects of Erasmus+ Youth in Action: programme still has effects on young people's lives eight years after the project

The research project by the RAY Network studied the long-term effects of participation in the Erasmus+ Youth in Action programme on young people's active citizenship and perceived participation. The original study was carried out in ten countries between 2015 and 2019. In 2023, the interview study was carried out again, this time in six countries.

Six interviewees from Finland took part in the study. The Finnish data was analysed by project researcher **Kari Saari** from Youth Research and Development Centre Juvenia of South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences.