



# FINAL APPLICATION FORM



## 2023

**EADLINE:** [20<sup>th</sup> September 2020 \(23:59 CET\)](#)

[www.europeanyouthcapital.org](http://www.europeanyouthcapital.org)

Applications to: [eyc@youthforum.org](mailto:eyc@youthforum.org)

Please note that the page limit must be **STRICTLY** respected: **The answers to questions from 4 to 14 cannot be longer than 30 pages all together<sup>1</sup>.**

Please note that all photographs<sup>2</sup> have to be added in the Annexes.

Please note that **ALL** information, including Annexes, has to be provided in English in both **Word and PDF** formats.

**Applications ignoring these requirements will not be considered eligible.**

**Applications and documents submitted after the deadline will not be considered eligible.**

## EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL (EYC) CONCEPT NOTE

### 1. APPLICANT

Municipality	Lublin	
Region	Lublin Region – Lubelskie Voivodship	
State	Poland	
Total population	339 000	
Population under 35 years old	83 961	

### 2. MUNICIPAL LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE

Surname	<b>Żuk</b>			
First Name	<b>Krzysztof</b>			
Position	<b>Mayor</b>			
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	<b>Municipal Service Coordinator</b>			
Surname	Kulińska			
First Name	Agata			
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	<b>Contact person (if different than the two persons above)</b>			
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### 3. SUPPORTING YOUTH STRUCTURE(S)<sup>1</sup>

Name of Organisation	<b>Młodzieżowa Rada Miasta Lublin (Lublin Youth City Council)</b>			
Address of	Street/Number	Postal Code	City	State

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to the Annex II for clarification.

<sup>2</sup> Please also provide a detailed programme expenditure in a separate table (can be added to the Annex).

<sup>3</sup> Statutory Meeting means either the Council of Members meeting or the General Assembly meeting of the

Organisation	<b>PI. W. Łokietka 1</b>	<b>20-109</b>	<b>Lublin</b>	<b>Poland</b>
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#### 4. HOSTING INFRASTRUCTURE

**What is the city's capacity regarding the accommodation to host the EYC 2023? The number of beds available, price range, attractiveness for young people from across Europe, access for people with disabilities.**

Lublin is the largest city of Eastern Poland and one of the most important economic, academic, and culture centres on the EU's eastern border. Located where trade routes cross and cultures converge, Lublin has long been a city of pluralism, exchange, and dialogue: once a seminal spot for Western outreach to the East and, since 2004, the European Union border with Belarus and Ukraine, today it is a strategic bridge into an eastward expanding Europe, a vibrant meeting place for international visitors and young people.

The hospitality sector in Lublin is on the rise. In 2012 only 1,025 beds were available in 14 hotels in the city. In October 2019, the same sector in Lublin offered a total of over 3,000 beds in 32 hotels.

This growth is there to meet increasing demands of the tourist sector, which grows rapidly in the Lublin area. In 2018 the number of visitors to Lublin was 540,000 with more than 120,000 foreigners compared to 295,000 and 77,000 in 2013, respectively.

Prices are truly diverse and vary from 7-9 Euro (dormitory) and 15-25 Euro (double bed in a private room in a hostel) to 70-90 Euro (4-5-star hotels) per night making it affordable for different target groups.

In addition, the official register of facilities providing hotel services other than hotels lists 98 facilities with 1,726 rooms and 4,007 beds.

More than 90% of the accommodation base is friendly for persons with disabilities.

Please, see the attached Colliers International report for more detailed information (pages 46-47).

**Reaching the city. What are the different options for young people from the country and from across Europe to reach the city?**

Lublin is the biggest city of eastern Poland located between two other major Polish cities: Warsaw (160 km) and Kraków (300 km). There is a new expressway connecting Lublin and Warsaw with a travel time of less than two hours.

Lublin is also within one day drive (8-10 hours) from some of European capital cities such as Berlin, Prague, Budapest, Bratislava, Kiev, Minsk, and only 200 km from Lviv – the main cultural and tourist centre in western Ukraine. Lublin is easily accessible via car sharing services with several dozens of options available daily on the Blablacar.com online service. Travel options cover domestic as well as foreign destinations.

The city has also expanded its bus services to all major cities in Poland with over 100 (!) buses leaving daily to Warsaw and over 40 to Kraków with fares starting from 5-6 Euro. There are also several coach operators leaving daily to Berlin, Prague, Budapest, Kiev, Minsk, or Lviv (more than ten services daily) with fares starting from 10 Euro.

Railway travel is also available with numerous international east- and westbound trains leaving Lublin daily. The fares are very affordable (the train service in Poland is subsidized by the government) with one-way tickets starting from 6 Euro (Warsaw) or 20 Euro (Berlin).

Last but not least, in 2012 Lublin launched its international airport (25 minutes ride from the city centre) with over ten international services, including by low-cost airlines (e.g. to London, Dublin, Antwerp, Tel-Aviv, Kiev, Oslo) and a daily flight to Warsaw and back (45 minutes).

**The transport in the city. What are different options to go around in the city? Are they affordable for young people? Is it accessible for people with disabilities?**

The public transport system in Lublin covers the entire city and even reaches to the neighbouring municipalities. Lublin is one of three Polish cities that operates a network of **trolleybuses** next to the regular bus transport. **All public transport vehicles in Lublin are accessible for persons with disabilities.** Buses and trolleybuses run throughout the week, day and night. Young people attending primary schools in Lublin are provided with free travel by buses and trolleybuses of public transport. The city bus tickets for students and pupils from outside Lublin (incl. international) is sold with 50% discount and costs 0,5 Euro.

Lublin is also a leader in practical cycling education, which has been implemented since 2013 in the form of extracurricular activities in Lublin schools. For many years, with the substantive support of non-governmental organizations, informal groups, active female and male residents, the city has been expanding the network of cycling and walking infrastructure. As a result, we currently have over 170 km of bicycle infrastructure. In 2014, the city bike system was launched. Since then, it has been expanded twice and has gained a large group of loyal users. The stations are located in the most important parts of the city in a way to enable free communication not only within the city center, but also commuting to work, school and university from more distant districts, as well as between Lublin and the neighboring city of Świdnik and the Świdnik area - 84 stations and 830 bikes in Lublin, 3 stations and 21 bikes in Świdnik, 2 stations and 20 bikes in the Świdnik area, 4 stations and 40 sponsored information points about Lublin City Bikes and the application for rentals are available in Polish, English, German. Similarly, tickets for public transport can be purchased at ticket machines at bus stops or through the application in several language variants. There are also bus and rail connections between Lublin and Świdnik, where the Lublin airport is located.

Personal transport services are also developing rapidly in Lublin. We have 3 operators and 500 electric scooters. In order to facilitate the use of various communication solutions, 20

mobility zones have been designated, i.e. parking lots connecting various types of transport, e.g. bicycle stations next to bus stops with a designated space for parking personal transport devices. In the future, we would like to launch an application or other solution that provides access to information about all available mobility options. There will be also complex youth information online system including public transport impelented as one of key elements of this application (staring from 2021).Please see the attached Colliers International report (pages 23-24) and <https://lublin.eu/en/travel-information/getting-around-the-city/> for more information.

**Working facilities. What are available spaces for different activities related to the proposed EYC 2023? What is the capacity of these spaces? What kind of activities can take place there? Is it accessible for people with disabilities?**

In 2018, as much as 69% of business meetings in Lublin were conferences and congresses, which ranks Lublin second among Polish cities in this category.

In 2017 we hosted the UEFA European Under-19 Cup and in 2019 FIFA World Under-20 Cup, among many other important big scale events.

There are also numerous cultural institutions in Lublin, which organize animation, educational and integration activities, including:

- 11 cultural institutions of the City of Lublin, including the Municipal Public Library with 45 branches in the districts of Lublin, the Cultural Center, District Cultural Centers, Workshops of Culture, the Labirynt Gallery (an institution particularly concerned with issues of accessibility and tolerance, space available), 2 theaters, including a theater for children and youth, "Grodzka Gate - NN Theater" Center, "Crossroads" Center for Intercultural Creative Initiatives, "Lublin" Song and Dance Ensemble
- 2 Youth community centers with branches
- 11 cooperative cultural centers,
- 9 Marshal's cultural institutions: Center for the Meeting of Cultures with a square popular among young people, 2 theaters, including a music one, Philharmonic, Center for Theater Practices "Gardzienice", Provincial Public Library and Provincial Cultural Center, museums.
- Academic Cultural Center
- The State Museum at Majdanek.

The city is constantly expanding and modernizing also its outside infrastructure to meet the needs in terms of active leisure and promoting health and physical fitness. We have:

- sports facilities intended for high-performance sports and the organization of national and regional competitions, such as: Arena Lublin football stadium with a capacity of 15,000 spectators with two full-size training pitches, sports halls: "Globus" and "Hala Sportowa" where training sessions and games of the highest leagues take place: handball, basketball, futsal, ice hall, football as well as speedway and athletics stadiums
- outdoor and indoor swimming pools plus a complex of outdoor recreational swimming pools at the Zemborzycki Lagoon,
- sports school facilities consisting of 80 comprehensively renovated gyms and 49 modernized multi-functional school playgrounds, including 13 youth sports complexes and 1 winter complex, 8 school swimming pools, which, apart from teaching activities, are made available for school and youth sports, as well as to organize school and youth leagues,
- 2 skateparks
- bike polo field,
- rugby field,

- a yacht club with equipment for tourist and sports sailing, as well as rentals of other water equipment for swimming on the Zemborzycki Lagoon or the Bystrzyca River,
- open sports and recreation facilities in the form of 26 local sports fields with the possibility of playing football, volleyball and basketball, as well as recreational areas with outdoor gyms or exercise areas, such as streetworkout, parkour located in various parts of the city

The schools themselves, of which there are about 150 in Lublin, constitute a very important space for the activities proposed in the initial application program. We assume that thanks to the implementation of EYC, school spaces will be increasingly used and perceived as places of meetings, joint activities, places of local activity and even places of local activities.

Municipal cultural institutions already largely support activities aimed at developing the local community (district and cooperative community centers). Some of the facilities located in the city have squares and a common space, which is also used for events or meetings. Examples of such places are the squares in front of the Cultural Center and the Center for the Meeting of Cultures. These are places especially liked by young people. They host workshops, concerts, performances, for example: New Circus, but also young people meet there to skate, skate, scooters or just talk. During the summer holidays, the Central Playground operates for a month before the Cultural Center, with various activities aimed mainly at older children and adolescents, largely carried out by young adults. Another new, popular place is the new skatepark, which was built in 2019 under the Civic Budget, based on the winning project proposed by young people.

Green, open urban spaces, such as parks: John Paul II Park, Park Rury, Park Czechów, Kalinowszczyzna gorge, rebuilt People's Park, or areas by the Zemborzycki Lagoon are also meeting places for young people. They are attracted to playgrounds, street workout squares and parkour. In the city, more and more open public spaces are used for activities in the field of culture, recreational sports, education and integration.

Vast majority of above mentioned places are accessible for people with disabilities. All EYC 2023 activities will take place only in venues fully adopted for the needs of less able ones.

**Are there any infrastructural projects planned and linked to the EYC 2023 that would reinforce the current capacity of the city?**

**Centre for Youth Information and Development** – see Budget Annex pos. 8 for description

**Child & Youth Support Centre** – see Budget Annex pos. 5 for description

**Youth Spaces** – see Budget Annex pos. 1 for description

We want to open up opportunities for young people to co-create space and activities in the city, and on this basis to develop new solutions based on needs. Due to the numerous votes that appeared at the consultation meetings, the application included the answer to this demand - **Youth Spaces**.

Places on the map of Lublin created by young people for young people and co-led by them. It will be a network of institutions, such as schools, public libraries, cultural institutions or the town hall. The rules and program for youth spaces will be developed by young people and will include meetings, workshop sessions, debates and seminars. We expect to create a network of at least 15 youth sites.

**Lublin Tourist Card.** It is a popular discount card offering half-price or free admission to museums and tourist attractions and discount deals in restaurants and hotels. It is perfect when visiting Lublin for a few days. For more information, please follow the link <https://www.lublincard.eu/en/>

**5. INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANT CITY**

## **Brief history or general presentation of the city that would help to understand the context of the application.**

The population of Lublin is around 340,000 people, which makes it the 9th largest city in Poland. Almost twice as many people (610,000) live in the Lublin Functional Area, i.e. the city of Lublin and 16 areas located in four adjacent municipalities (Lublin, Lubartów, Łęczna, and Świdnik).

International rankings place the city on a par with Eastern European capitals such as Sofia, Zagreb, and Vilnius. A report titled, A Study on the Perception of Business Friendliness, prepared by the Emerging Europe think tank, ranks Lublin 5th in the categories of talent pool and support of local authorities against the background of 74 other cities in the region.

Lublin, as the provincial capital, is the economic, cultural, and academic centre of the region. The Lublin Functional Area is over 600,000 residents. It is a prosperous metropolitan structure based on cooperation networks. Thanks to the regional airport and the intersection of national roads, soon to become part of the cross-border road network, Lublin is an important transportation hub.

Lublin is a fast-developing academic centre with nine universities (five public and four private) and almost 62,000 students. Student culture accounts for a big slice of the local culture. Lublin is a city with 700 years of history; it was built by a multicultural community and nowadays has the **second highest internationalisation rate in Poland** in terms of number of international students. Please see Annex V for details.

Over the last ten years, there have been significant changes in the city's approach to youth policies. The following milestones in this process can be distinguished:

### 1. Increasing awareness and recognition of youth organizations (2010-2012)

Looking back, the year 2010 was a real game changer for youth policy in Lublin with the new mayor elected and some of city's most notable youth organizations founded that year. The following years brought some other significant changes in the city-NGOs cooperation with the establishment of the first municipal unit responsible for cooperation with NGOs and new youth organisations.

### 2. First research and surveys led by youth organizations (2012-2015)

The second period is marked by first attempts to define the needs and expectations of city's youth with most notable work made by local NGOs such as:

- We Need Information! Report (2012) – a report on young people's situation in Lublin
- Youth Guide (2014) – a complex report on social involvement, youth information and structured dialogue in Lublin

### 3. First joint municipality and NGO youth policy and a structured dialogue project (2015)

That year brought first joint youth organization and municipality project focused specifically on youth policy. The project was implemented as part of the Erasmus+ KA3 Youth scheme. The outcome was youth recommendations (Let's Talk!). The publication marked the beginning of structured youth policy implementation in Lublin.

### 4. Youth representatives in the city's decision-making structures (2015-2018)

First youth representative bodies: the Youth City Council and the Youth Committee were created (described below). The period saw the drafting of the Youth in Politics – the Youth Policy document prepared and adopted by the Youth City Council. The council members, in cooperation with young people from Lublin, developed over a dozen recommendations for

the Mayor of Lublin covering youth activity, activities of student councils, and career counselling.

#### 5. Work on the first, holistic and consistent youth policy strategy (2019-)

Currently, we are in the process of creating and implementing the Lublin 2030 development strategy with a separate component on youth policy. The document has just been consulted with young Lubliners during a series of meetings. It is worth mentioning that the COVID-19 pandemic has not affected the consultation process. Three video calls were made among young people and youth organisations concerned. The document is expected to be ready by the end of 2020 and will be the first municipality-based long-time strategy on youth policy, structured dialogue, and needs of young people in Lublin.

Currently Lublin does not have any complex youth policy document passed by City Council. As this might be seen as a strong disadvantage we consider EYC 2023 title as a great chance to change this. There is some serious work in progress going on (see above) and with a great energy and under wings of EYC 2023 we will succeed.

#### **What youth support services are available in the city?**

Two main youth support services existing in Lublin and covering what we considered the most important areas of support are:

- Centre for Youth Information and Development
- Crisis Intervention Centre

**The Centre for Youth Information and Development** was opened in 2013 and is run independently by a local youth organisation. It aims at supporting young people in their personal and social development by providing free of charge information, counselling, and opportunities to get involved in three main areas of interest: education, voluntary service, and labour market.

Over the years, the centre has become one of the strongest youth centres in Poland serving/supporting over 5,000 young people a year and giving them a variety of options.

**The Crisis Intervention Centre** is a city-led institution focused on providing psychological assistance and crisis interventions for all residents. It is the main centre for all young people suffering from psychological problems, neglection, domestic abuse, or bullying. It offers free psychological support, helpline, and assistance of counsellors and family advisors.

We decided to focus on two main services covering the key areas of support (education, work, psychological assistance, intervention, volunteering opportunities) in one place, free of charge and accessible for all young people (students, schoolers, young workers, etc). However, there are many more of them with privately and NGO-run aid centres and support groups, academic and student organizations, numerous centres/points and school services (professional counselling, psychological support).

Looking for improvements in the existing system, a very important element of the EYC 2023 programme will be the launch of a dedicated, fully professional **Children and Youth Support Centre designed specifically for children and young people suffering from domestic abuse, or having problems with the law, their mental state, or bullying**. The centre will be the 5<sup>th</sup> such facility in Poland and the first in eastern Poland. It will be opened in cooperation with the nationwide Empowering Children Foundation, a leading Polish and Eastern European youth support organization. First arrangements have already been made.

There are dozens of youth organisations in Lublin. Some of them are strongly involved in the EYC application process. These youth organisations actively participate in creating and implementing city's policies, especially by cooperating with the Public Participation Department and the Culture Department of the Lublin Municipal Office.

The youth organizations in Lublin can be grouped under three main themes:

- non-formal education
- culture
- youth participation

with some of them overlapping.

Major city's youth organizations are recognizable nationwide, organize national events and receive awards. Some examples are:

- Gamification National Challenge – a national online game competition organized by the Ministry of Digitization and the TEAM Teatrikon Foundation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- European Juggling Convention - the biggest and most prestigious event in the world of juggling, involving jugglers, amateurs and hobbyists, new circus and street artists; it is co-organised by the Sztukmistrze Foundation.
- Digital Skills and Youth Empowered Programmes – national youth-focused programmes run with Facebook and Coca-Cola in cooperation with the Sempre a Frente Foundation.

The main link between the Lublin Municipal Office and youth organizations in Lublin is the **Public Participation Department**, a body appointed specifically to coordinate city's cooperation with NGOs and oversee the participation processes. There are over 200 projects/initiatives yearly that stem directly from cooperation between the Lublin Municipal Office and youth organisations.

The key body in the city's youth structure is the **Youth City Council** established in 2006 to strengthen the civic attitudes of Lublin's youth and to educate them in the framework of democratic processes. The structure, goals, and means of action, as well as the electoral code of the youth council, were designed in such a way as to support youth development based on the local community and learn the mechanisms of democracy.

The Youth City Council is a body that consist of young people – students and pupils chosen by their peers (by voting) to represent young people in Lublin. Council undertakes various initiatives aimed at strengthening civic attitudes and supporting the activity of young residents of Lublin. It also supports student governing bodies by organizing training sessions, conferences, and projects.

A good example of such an initiative is the Youth in Politics – the Youth Policy project, where the municipal council members in cooperation with young people from Lublin developed over a dozen recommendations for the Mayor of Lublin in the field of youth activity, activities of student councils, and career counselling.

It is important to emphasize that the idea of applying for EYC came also from the Youth City Council representatives who saw this as an opportunity to strengthen youth position in the city.

YCC powers and responsibilities:

- proposing resolutions on youth related issues to City Council
- leading role in preparing and implementing youth laws in the city
- passing resolutions on youth policy
- issuing statements on youth policy

Another important youth structure in Lublin is **the Children and Youth Committee** established in 2018. It was appointed by the Mayor of Lublin to strengthen the city's efforts to build a youth policy through dialogue between the authorities and residents. The committee is made up of the representatives of young Lubliners, youth organisations, and local authorities (about 40 members, young people + youth organisation representatives + city officials). There are regular monthly committee meetings on topics such as youth activity and different forms of youth empowerment. The committee also closely cooperates with the Youth City Council and the Mayor's Office to oversee the city's youth policy.

CaYC powers and responsibilities:

- advisory body to the Mayor in youth related issues
- advisory body to the City Council
- proposing resolutions on youth policy
- Forum of meetings and exchange of views between youth representatives and adults working for and with young people

Both the Youth City Council and the Children and Youth Committee play a pivotal role in implementing municipal policies as advisory bodies both to the Lublin City Council and Mayor's Office. To emphasize their importance and secure a direct link and impact on decision-making processes in the city, the following initiatives have been established between the youth structures and Mayor's Office:

- appointment of the **Mayor's Plenipotentiary for Children and Youth** (Agata Kulinska); she is responsible for communication between the Youth City Council and the Lublin City Council and Mayor's Office.
- One of the **Children and Youth Committee chairmen** is city's Deputy Mayor Mariusz Banach; he is responsible for youth education and participates in committee meetings.

These ties show the importance of cooperation between the youth structures in Lublin and the city's executive bodies.

A very measurable and specific result of Lublin's youth organizations' effort is the successful implementation of the youth civic budget in the city.

**Lublin Youth Civic Budget** was set up in 2019 by the Youth City Council and the Children and Youth Committee in cooperation with the Lublin City Council and Mayor's Office. Apart from being a great example of a real impact and involvement of the youth in decision-making processes, the Youth Civic Budget offers each informal group of young people in Lublin an opportunity to apply for funds to pursue their projects and initiatives or handle important issues and play a more active role in communities. **The budget supports dozens of youth projects yearly and is operated by an independent youth organization.** It is important to note that the idea of creating the Youth Civic Budget was one of the key recommendations of the Youth in Politics – the Youth Policy project.

There were some serious talks about the future of YCB in Lublin as a response to EYF feedback. **Municipality of Lublin assured that the budget will be continued in upcoming years with a significant increase of funds.** However a specific numbers must be discussed by the City Council first.

As a response to EYF feedback there will be another youth body set up – a **Youth Organizations Federation** that will gather together youth organizations from Lublin. The Federation will be establish independently by local ngos in 2021.

YOF rsponsibilities and powers:

- united voice of youth organizations in Lublin
- independent from municipal structures
- right to propose changes to the law in youth policy and related fields
- members will be included into EYC Advisory Board

**Regional, national and European links. What are the main partners on different levels, what kind of partnerships (strategic, project based, town twinning etc.)?**

In 2014, the Territorial Cooperation Strategy of the City of Lublin for 2014-2020 was developed in cooperation with 16 municipalities from the Eastern Partnership countries. The vision presented in this document defines Lublin as “a leader of territorial cooperation in Central and Eastern Europe, aware of its heritage and competence, a centre for dialogue and communication, co-creating the European Neighbourhood Policy.”

In 2014, the participants of the Eastern Europe Initiatives Congress signed a joint declaration to implement the Cross-Border Cooperation Strategy of Lublin Voivodeship, Vohlyn Oblast, Lviv Oblast and Brest Oblast for 2014-2020.

There are over 40 international cultural events in Lublin every year. This is possible owing to the extensive (over 100) network of international partnerships in the field of culture.

At present Lublin has also 25 partner cities and the letter of intent on cooperation with further 21 cities on 3 continents, of which the vast majority in Europe. We have received 16 letters of support from our partner cities. In our opinion, this testifies to the real value and quality of international cooperation with our partners.

This cooperation confirmed by the letters also includes cooperation between youth city councils of our cities and received letters are to stand for it (in all cases youth structures are dependant to municipality so we decided to show support for our efforts at the highest possible level that covers all possible areas of cooperation in the field of youth. However we managed to add a few letters specifically from youth city councils.

Lublin is also a member of the following networks: Eurocities, EUniverCities, XARXA FP, the Union of Polish Metropolises.

Young people are among the main beneficiaries of cooperation with partner cities. It manifests itself in various types of international exchange programmes carried out by educational institutions, or international projects intended for the youth and implemented by local governments, non-governmental organizations, cultural institutions, sports clubs as well as various internships and practices, summer schools, artistic plain-airs or job shadowing programmes. An important factor supporting the development of these forms of cooperation are financial programmes and instruments that allow obtaining funds for the implementation of such activities. These are Erasmus+, the European Solidarity Corps, the Polish-Lithuanian Youth Exchange Fund, the Polish-Ukrainian Youth Exchange Council, and the Polish-German Youth Cooperation.

Lublin's youth organisations are also highly active compared with their European vis-à-vis. Its key initiatives are:

- Regional Eurodesk Network Information Point (winner of the national Best Youth Information award in 2018 and 2019)
- Regional Erasmus+ Information Point
- One of the highest number of Erasmus+ Youth sector projects (per capita) implemented yearly, especially by youth organisations with 21 projects awarded in 2019 by the European Commission
- Over 40 implemented international projects with over 60 international partners in 2019
- Two major youth organizations are members of the Polish Council of Youth Organizations (member of EYF)
- Two representatives of city's youth organizations are members of regional and national NGO councils
- Lublin's youth organisations cooperate with over 50 international partners on a regular basis with the most notable ones being Oxford University, Foroige (the biggest youth organisation in Ireland), Facebook, Coca Cola and many others, implementing intersectoral projects of regional and national importance.

## 6. MOTIVATION

At the beginning of the process we decided to get to know better about needs that stand behind motivation of young Lubliners to run for EYC 2023. Here we present some thoughts on that.

Young people in Lublin and, more broadly, in Poland, deal with the education system that does not meet the needs and "does not catch up" with contemporary knowledge in the field of developmental psychology, pedagogy. It also does not catch up with the modern digital and information world, contemporary labor market needs or civilization needs (which was largely proven by the lockdown situation). They fight for subjective treatment, independence, the right to co-decide about their world, the space in which they function, for free time to develop their interests, passions, talents, or simply to meet friends and friends. In addition, they increasingly face difficult and crisis situations that are difficult to deal with on their own or as part of their peer resources, so they need the support of psychologists, educators and other specialists in the field of physical and mental development and health. Important aspects here are the issues of discrimination - or more broadly unequal treatment - of peer violence, stigmatizing otherness, most strongly experienced by LGBT + youth; hate and verbal aggression, issues of navigating in a hybrid (digital-real) reality.

Poverty and exclusion because of it (young people do not have the opportunity to work, many environments working with disadvantaged youth talk about the need to create facilities for children aged 13+ to earn their own money (e.g. in the form of cooperatives in schools, etc.)

Young people in Lublin work to create spaces they need, participate in meetings, strive for their rights and the rights of minority groups from the position of the Youth City Council or organizations established for this purpose - informal groups (Equality March Association in Lublin, Youth Climate Strike Lublin). Youth energy in Lublin wakes up again. Lublin needs it as well as new thinking about the role of young people in co-managing the city, joint creation and implementation of the offer, activities for the development of the local community. We are all aware of the fact that the city's future depends precisely on how young people connect with the city and engage in its development.

As a part of the consultations for the EYC 2023 title, young people said that they need, among others:

- better access to information, e.g. on the opportunities offered to them by the city
- opportunities to join the discussion and take real action for the benefit of the city, mutual learning from each other (city <-> youth) in areas such as: education, common space, sense of security, environmental protection, climate crisis, tolerance, equality, accessibility, inclusiveness,
- improving the quality of education and the possibility of using the city's offer for young people with disabilities, special development and educational needs, opportunities to get to know each other and work together,
- opportunities for the city to act and use the potential of young people, giving space and tools, skills to strengthen this potential - supporting active young people creativity of young people, promoting youth initiatives, events that will result directly from the interests and needs of young people,
- places that they themselves will be able to co-create and manage "Lublin youth needs their space where they could develop in a calm way, without the pressure of adults",
- education of the future - inclusive, based on openness, subjectivity, empathy, cooperation and creativity,
- knowledge about the possibilities of further development and support in the field of choosing, following development paths, finding a good, satisfying job

One of the most important goals of this application is to help it happens.

**What was the process leading to the submission of the application? How did the city decide to apply for the title? What was the involvement of young people and youth organisations in this process? The scope and the process of this involvement.**

The idea came from youth organization representatives. After the idea of EYC had been supported by Youth City Council and accepted by the city officials, we started preparations. And by “we,” I mean youth organizations representatives and young people. That culminated in a real joint effort. We’d like to strongly emphasize that both idea of applying for EYC, main assumptions and the final shape of the application come from young and youth organizations. The role of Municipality is supporting and securing. The coordinator of this phase of application is also local ngo member, not city official – Mateusz Malyska.

Here are steps we have taken in the process:

### **1. Initial decision and development of the concept note**

As mentioned earlier, the idea to apply for EYC has come from young people and youth organizations. After the general go-ahead from the city, a group of young people connected with the Youth City Council frames the main assumptions for the concept note.

Young people participated in every preparation meeting together with the city and youth organisation representatives. Application Team came to life as a young people and youth organizations initiative joined by members of City Council (20 people in total).

What is also unique is the fact that coordination of the whole process was given away not to city representatives but to a youth organisation representative and the Youth City Council.

The role of young people and youth organizations so far:

- bringing the idea to the city
- preparing the idea of the concept note
- co-authoring the concept note and the second-round application
- participation in preparatory meetings (over 30 so far)
- participation in Lublin 2030 surveys and further consultations described in Section 7
- participation in the Application Team

### **2. Preparation of EYC**

The role of young people in this phase:

- members of the Application Team
- coordination of the second and third-round applications
- members of the volunteer team
- preparing and attending consultations

### **3. Implementation of EYC**

The role of young people in this phase will be:

- members of the Advisory Board
- members of the volunteer team and the EYC Office
- members of the monitoring and evaluation team and every other management team
- recipients of all planned activities
- organizers or co-organizers of 2/3 of the programme activities

To show the role of young people and youth organizations and to expose the spirit of the application, we decided to divide the EYC activities into three (as mentioned in the concept note) areas: City for Youth, Youth for the City, Youth and the City – in our opinion, they will fully capture the meaning of this cooperation.

### **Why does the city wish to take part in the competition for the EYC 2023 title?**

Because this is going to be a one-in-a-lifetime chance for young people and youth organizations from Lublin to play a very important role in city's life, to realize their own ideas, to be partners not petitioners, to improve their position and **make a real difference**. On the other hand, the city itself can show up as a leader in youth policies and gain recognition not only in Poland but also in Eastern Europe. The ultimate outcomes are partnership, synergy and community.

### **Willingness to dedicate time, effort and the necessary resources as the EYC 2023 including preparation, implementation and follow-up phases.**

We are here. Despite all difficulties, the pandemic, online and offline challenges, permanent lack of time, a group of almost 20 people – members of local ngos, young people and municipality officials were meeting weekly (or more often) spending long hours to bring us here. They partnered up with young people invited to consultations in this extremely difficult period not only for our city but also for our country and the world, too. We are extremely motivated. We feel like this is our time. On the other hand, our EYC 2023 efforts are part of Lublin 2030 implementation strategy. We rely on a solid and diverse management structure, a wide range of supportive stakeholders, political support, secured salaries and organizational capacities, and, last but not least, a programme full of activities that will keep us busy.

## **7. EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

During the application process following actions have been taken:

- a series of open online consultation meetings with youth organizations (the total number of 28 youth organizations participated)
- a series of open consultation sessions with young people (the total number of 101 people participated)
- one-to-one online meetings with youth organizations (three meetings with three organizations)
- three online meetings with the Youth City Council members
- a series of online meetings with student organizations (five universities participated)
- 14 meetings of the Application Team made up of the Deputy Mayor, directors of key Lublin Municipal Office departments, representatives of NGOs, young people and external and internal experts.
- countless number of online one-to-one working sessions

Youth organisations/institutions involved in the process:

- Youth City Council
- the youth organisation working directly on the application: Sempre a Frente Foundation
- youth organisations particularly involved in the application process (other than open consultation, e.g. work on a detailed programme): TEAM Teatrikon Foundation
- consulted youth organisations: 28
- key supporting national/European youth organisations/structures: Eurodesk Poland, Polish Council of Youth Organisations (PROM), Voices of Youth Coalition among others

Accessibility for different groups of people with disabilities is a priority for EYC team..eu/ESM as well as in social networks, taking into account all applicable WCAG standards.

Including the widest possible representation of groups with disabilities (as well as other minority groups) in the work of the team will also serve to construct the EYC program, which will to the greatest extent implement the ideal of building social cohesion on the basis of diversity advantage. In Lublin, we believe in creating conditions for mixing different groups and working out solutions together - so as not to build separate solutions for separate, non-communicating social groups.

This strategy applies not only to groups of people with disabilities, but also to other groups that make up the heterogeneous, diverse community of "youth": foreign youth, youth returning from economic emigration of parents, youth suffering from social exclusion, youth belonging to ethnic minorities and religious, LGBT + youth.

Both the EYC programme and preparation will be made with extreme care for young people with disabilities and from different minorities which include specific actions:

- ESM volunteering team will be trained in the context of participation in the created events of people (adolescents) with disabilities (knowledge of savoir vivre, basics of assistance, awareness of the barriers of young people with disabilities in participation in cultural and social life, knowledge of possible solutions plus including volunteers and volunteers of people with disabilities in the team.

- organization of the proposed events with care for special needs (availability of space, translations, audio description, subtitles for the deaf, induction loop, etc.)

- physical participation of young people with disabilities in the created events and in the creation of events (including them in the process of creating and consulting organized events at the stage of their idea, organization and implementation, inviting young artists / artistic groups composed, among others, of people with disabilities to participate in the proposed events)

- inclusiveness, inclusion - creating events that are as open as possible (NO special events dedicated to people with disabilities).

- Antidiscrimination Centre that exists in Lublin and supports young people from minorities will play a very important role in delivering safe and comfortable space for everyone during each EYC events according to "All is welcome" rule.

- Information on websites and portals will be available in sign language.

- NGOs acting for the benefit of disabled persons as well as educational institutions will be informed about the organized events.

- In each of the cultural institutions where the events will take place, there are employed persons acting as accessibility coordinator.

- Lublin's cultural institutions and sports facilities have extensive experience in involving people with disabilities both as recipients and creators, and in organizing events in which people with various types of disabilities participate.

The city's accessibility and openness to the needs of disabled youth is also demonstrated by the number of students with disabilities. In the 2019/2020 academic year, a total of 1,152 students with disabilities study at 9 universities.

### **How this programme will meet key goals of the application and ensure long-term legacy of the EYC 2023?**

**Our vision is to make Lublin a Polish Youth Capital as the most youth-friendly city in Poland but also a leader in implementing youth policies not only in Poland but also in Eastern Europe. We want to achieve this until 2030.**

Some key assumptions of this visions were introduced and described previously and can be framed in three words:

- partnership

- synergy
- community

To achieve our vision, we have named our main goal as:

**To increase the social and civic participation of young people by forming a sense of belonging and synergy with the city.**

Starting with our vision and the main goal, we have identified some specific internal and external goals behind this application:

Specific internal goals (focused on the inside of the city):

- to create coherent and comprehensive city youth information system (web pages, labelling, apps, etc.)
- to open a city-owned modern youth spaces that meets the needs of young people
- to create a consistent city's youth policy structure
- to design a programme for young people – a coherent list of Lublin's offering for young people responding to specific needs, including some existing mechanisms and schemes as well as new ones (such as youth projects, cultural portfolio, voluntary service opportunities and others), developed jointly with the residents and organizations (see more in the Detailed Activities & Budget appendix).

Specific external goals (focused on city's outside environment)

- to become a leader of youth policy and dialogue between young people and decision makers in Poland
- to become Poland-first European Youth Capital – as a chance to lead the “youth change” and most youth-friendly Polish city.
- to be a “Convention Centre” for young people from inside and outside the EU: from East and West, to create chances and opportunities for international youth cooperation

Consistency of the above goals with the programme and its long-term legacy will be ensured through our implementation strategy that can be described as:

**VISION -> MAIN GOAL -> SPECIFIC GOALS -> DETAILED ACTIVITIES** approach – meaning every further and more detailed step of this application must be coherent and complementary to the previous one to create a solid, understandable, and yet detailed whole.

The following programme is focused and rested on three EYF policies:

- Coherence – the programme is detailed but remain aligned with the vision, main and key goals
- Credibility – the programme is realistic, i.e. implementable because it is based on credible calculations and contains a detailed and realistic budget
- Long-term commitment – each activity is designed and described as a long-term commitment for 2021-2024 and later as a part of Lublin 2030 commitment.

Our programme structure reflects the EYC vision & main goal and can be reflected through three programme areas mentioned previously in the concept note:

1. **CITY FOR YOUTH** – a wide range of activities designed by the city for young people.

2. **YOUTH FOR THE CITY – young people’s contribution:** projects/initiatives designed and implemented by young people/youth organisations, engagement of volunteers in EYC preparation and implementation.
3. **YOUTH AND THE CITY – cooperation and partnership between the Lublin Municipal Office, young people, youth organisations and other stakeholders** in designing and implementing joint activities

**Each programme area has been assigned a different colour (purple, green, red).** It will help differentiate and easily compartmentalize all activities described both in this application and in the Detailed Activities & Budget appendix.

Additionally, to understand the concept of the programme better, each activity has been **assigned a thematic category** for better identification. The categories are:

- YOUTH PARTICIPATION & SUPPORT (YP&S)
- SPORT
- CULTURE
- EDUCATION

Each activity also has its REGIONAL (R), NATIONAL (N) or EUROPEAN (E) **dimension note** explaining the scale and scope of each event.

If Lublin wins the EYC title, the detailed programme highlighting all activities with their brief descriptions/categories will be published, and the Guide to the European Youth Capital 2023 will be developed (PL/ UA/ EN).

Below, we present some key activities that will be implemented under the EYC 2023 programme. This selection shows the main programme lines and tries to balance different type of events. **The listed events are not intended to be bigger than or superior to others, nor to be most important ones: they are provided to highlight some fundamental assumptions and goals behind the application: partnership, synergy, community.**

Please refer to the annex to see all 80 proposed activities with descriptions.

## 1. **CITY FOR YOUTH**

### **Child and Youth Support Centre (YP&S, R)**

A place offering comprehensive assistance to kids and adolescents, often crime victims, set up with the aid of the Empowering Children Foundation. Psychological, therapeutic, medical and family support. The venue to be also adopted to police and law enforcement hearings for underaged crime victims. Open five days a week with a 24/7 helpline for the youth. It will be the fifth venue of this kind in Poland and first in eastern Poland. A joint venture project of the Lublin Municipal Office and youth organizations.

### **Night of Culture (Culture, N, E)**

Night of Culture is an annual feast of Lublin. The 2023 special edition will be dedicated to young people who will prepare the programme overlapping with the EYC. There are several hundred attractions to see and the time is limited. It is only one night. The audience is estimated at about 100,000 people, including approx. 24,000 tourists.  
<https://en.nockultury.pl/>

### **Programme for developing self-government of children and youth in Lublin (YP&S, EDUCATION, R)**

A three-year all-city programme to develop self-government and democracy of children and youth in 150 Lublin's primary and secondary schools: training sessions, meetings, tutoring, supporting young people's activity, study trips, inter-school exchange of best practice, developing and sharing educational materials from the programme.

**Different Sounds Festival & Little Different Sounds** (Culture, N, E)

Different Sounds is more than just music. The youngest audiences are invited to participate in Little Different Sounds (an original educational programme which gets kids accustomed to sounds and different music genres, and which shows that music is an incredibly rich cognitive territory). The 2023 edition will be a fully professional concert series designed for children and teenagers. <https://en.innebrzmienia.eu/about/>

**International Youth Goalball Tournament U-19 for hearing-impaired youth** (SPORT, E)

International Youth Goalball Tournament for young people under 19 is an Olympic sports discipline for people with hearing disabilities. The tournament will host sports teams from Poland and abroad (Ukraine, Hungary, Romania, Denmark, and Sweden).

**Lublin Basket Cup** (SPORT, N, E)

Basketball international tournament for young people from Lublin and its partner cities. The tournament will have two sport clubs from Lublin, two from Poland and eight from Lublin's partner cities. The city will cover board and accommodation costs for the players.

**Nationwide Erasmus Olympic Games** (SPORT, N, E)

Nationwide Olympic Games for Erasmus students. The Olympics will be divided into indoor and outdoor sports disciplines throughout the year.

## 2. YOUTH FOR THE CITY

**Youth City Council Award** (YP&S, N)

An award for outstanding initiatives intended for the youth presented by the Youth City Council of Lublin. In 2023 there will be a special edition of the award to honour individuals who are the greatest advocates of youth activities from Lublin, Poland, and Europe.

**International Youth Exchange and Train the Trainer events** (YP&S, Education, E)

International youth projects carried out by Lublin-based youth organisations in cooperation with international partners within Erasmus+ Programme Action 1. We expect at least 10 projects in 2023 alone.

**City Birthday** (YP&S, R)

Special events organised by young people on 15 August 2023 to commemorate the anniversary of incorporation of Lublin as a city. The event will have a birthday-like form.

**EYC Voluntary Service** (YP&S, EDUCATION, R)

Special activities for young people who can engage in a year-round programme and take part in major events through voluntary work. The goal is also to promote the idea of voluntary work among the youth in general. At the end of the year, there is going to be a special Volunteers Gala to reward the most active and involved volunteers. We plan to engage over 200 young people in different voluntary activities throughout a year.

**Global Village** (EDUCATION, R, E)

Regular series of events taking place on the main city square in Lublin. AIESEC volunteers who came to Lublin will talk about their countries and culture and prepare their local food. Erasmus students could also be invited to this event. It is aimed to increase cultural awareness and tolerance among residents.

### 3. YOUTH AND THE CITY

#### **Youth Information and Development Centre (YP&S, R)**

Upgrading the existing centre: a place offering information on education, work, volunteering, and advisory services for the youth. Youth information, cooperation within a structured dialogue, workshop on youth policy, meetings with decision makers, opportunities to get engaged in local and international youth projects. Full time professional Eurodesk and Erasmus+ consultant and career advisor available.

#### **Urban Youth Activator (YP&S, R)**

A system of mini grants for the pursuit of social and civic youth initiatives. Around 80 initiatives carried out by informal youth groups, pupils, and students, will be funded at between 250 to 1,250 EUR each.

#### **Youth Spaces (YP&S, R)**

Site on the map of Lublin created by the young for the young and co-led by the young. It will be a network of locations, such as schools, public libraries, cultural institutions, or the city hall. The rules and the programme for Youth Spaces will be designed by young people and will cover meetings, workshop sessions, debates, and seminars. We expect to create a network of at least 15 youth sites.

#### **European Youth Week 2023 (YP&S, E, R)**

Every two years, the European Commission celebrates the first week of May as the European Youth Week. In 2023 we want to hold a very special celebration in Lublin – the European Youth Capital. Together with youth organizations, Eurodesk and Erasmus+ regional points, we are going to make 2023 a special year for young people: a youth stage in Plac Litewski, mobile European information points around the city, open workshop sessions in the Youth Information and Development Centre are but a small part of these youthful celebrations.

#### **Open tolerance and climate programme (EDUCATION, R)**

A series of open workshop sessions and meetings designed and led by independent trainers from local and national NGOs.

There will be two separate programmes focused on:

- Widely understood **tolerance**: cultural diversity, acceptance, immigrants, tolerance attitude, human rights, gender equality
- **Climate**: climate change, threats to humanity, earth and air pollution, eco-friendly solutions, zero-waste

Each programme will contain informal educational tools: open-air workshop, case studies, meetings with experts, etc. Each programme will last about 36 hours with at least two groups. If necessary, the workshop sessions can be held in English.

#### **International Disabled Art Festival (CULTURE, E)**

The festival will be an international event featuring talents in dance, theatre, and handicraft. The festival will attract a professional and renowned artist who can support a career of young artists.

#### **European Parliament Simulation (YP&S, R)**

EP Assembly simulation and training carried out for young people with the aid of Lublin counsellors. A regional all-day activity with the culmination point of mock EP assembly in the Lublin City Council hall with an honorary guest, a regional MEP.

#### **Lublin e-sport Tournament (SPORT, R)**

Computer games tournament for young Lubliners combined with traditional forms of sport, e.g. rowing ergometers, streetball, etc. The tournament will cover electronic sports and

disciplines popular among Lubliners: football (FIFA), basketball (NBA), hockey (NHL), American football (NFL), car races, and cycling races with trainers. The games will be transmitted online.

#### **Youth Culture Gala (CULTURE, R)**

An event intended to award young people active in the field of culture. During the gala, awards will be presented to both young Lublin residents particularly engaged in the city's cultural life and individuals or institutions supporting such activities.

#### **Meeting of Styles (CULTURE, E)**

The International Youth Festival of Graffiti Art alluding to the German Wall Street Meeting Festival. The main idea of the event is to show off graffiti as one of burgeoning fields of art but also to allow young people to display their talents. It will be held in Lublin because of EYC 2023.

#### **Unity in Diversity (EDUCATION, R)**

Implementing the Unity in Diversity programme with AIESEC. The core activity is classes with foreign volunteers based on the UN Sustainable Development Goals regarding tolerance in kindergartens, primary schools, high schools, and NGOs. Volunteers talk about their countries and teach the language.

#### **Let's make Trututu – Educational programme: the young teach younger (EDUCATION, R)**

The project will be implemented by the RTru Informal Group in cooperation with cultural and educational institutions operating in Lublin and the region. The project promotes education in action and develops the idea of "young teach younger", in which young people from the neighbourhood aged 16+ share their skills and talents on a voluntary basis with younger project participants in cooperation with the project organisers.

#### **How does this programme promote European identity and is linked with European (youth) policies including the policies of the European Youth Forum? How it will attract (young) people from Europe to come to the city? What current European themes will be touched upon through the proposed programme?**

Many researches show that the economic crisis that has followed the COVID-19 pandemic and the lock-down of many national economies are going to strike many society groups. Probably the economically weakest group, young people, can be among them. In that case, implementing the EU youth goals and priorities seem to be more relevant than ever before.

Our programme meets the following EU strategies/assumptions/priorities:

#### **1. According to EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027 guiding principles:**

- Equality, non-discrimination, inclusion

There will be equal access to all activities in the programme for all young people regardless of race, economic and social background, disabilities, gender, and beliefs. All activities will be:

- accessible to people with disabilities
- free of charge
- advertised/described in Polish, English and optionally Ukrainian
- free from any form of religious teaching or faith conversion
- eco-friendly to the greatest extent possible

- Participation

Due to its design and consultation process, implementation will be led by young people themselves (as stated in key assumptions and programme areas). EYC activities will be designed to untap the full potential and encourage participation of young people – as inventors and implementers but also as participants not only spectators.

- Global, European, national, regional, and local dimension

Our priority is for the EYC activities to be tailored to different target groups and cover European, regional, and national dimensions. Each activity will be assigned a category to make it stand out in the programme that will cover all the dimensions.

## **2. According to the European Youth Forum key assumptions:**

- Youth participation – as mentioned above
- Joint decision-making

Understood as involving young people in the process of preparing and implementing the programme also at the executive and decision-making level. This is described in detail in Section 10.

- European dimension – described and labelled per specific activities

## **3. According to the European Youth Forum priorities:**

- Greater youth participation
- Stronger youth organisations
- Youth autonomy and inclusion

See Section 10 for more details.

The following additional EU policies/goals are reflected in specific programme activities:

- greener Europe (especially the climate change programme)
- youth and labour market (School for Young Leaders)
- ageing of society (intergenerational meetings)
- gender equality and LGBTQ rights policy (resulting in equal access to all EYC 2023 events for all groups subjected to discrimination + Tolerance programme)

The biggest strengths of our application surface when you consider it as a coherent whole. Referring to the activities mentioned above and in Detailed Activities & Budget, the following, in our opinion are the fundamental differentiating factors:

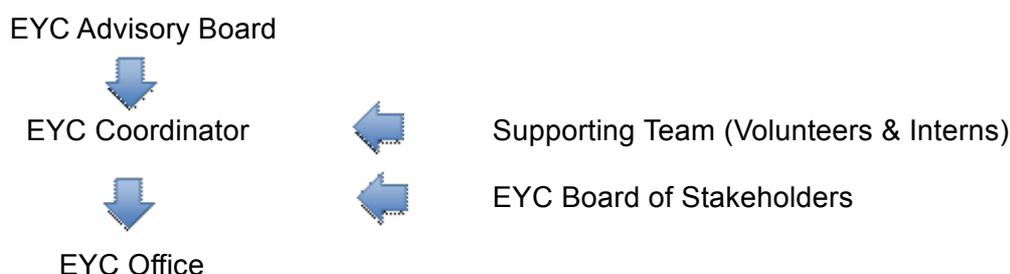
- programme selection and clear labelling
- well-balanced activities (thematic areas and dimension)
- numerous activities for young people with disabilities
- high-profile renown cultural events
- wide range of programme options (over 70) and target groups
- online and IT events (IT Upland, Hackathon, e-sport tournament)

## **8. MANAGEMENT**

EYC 2023 will be managed in accordance to URBACT programme structure with assurance of participation of different stakeholders and democratic decision processes. City of Lublin has experience in this management structure and we feel this attitude reflects ideals of

EYC. All managing bodies will be run with a budget separated from overall city budget and with members employed specifically to manage EYC processes. Structure will be established by City Council (by voting) as independent EYC managing body. Members of EYC Office from outside Municipality will be contracted as paid workers.

Structure presented below will be fully independent from Municipality especially in terms of decision making which is guaranteed by the balanced number of representatives from different stakeholders groups. Simplified management structure will be as follows.



Body	Members	Functions
EYC Advisory Board	9 members: three municipal office, three young people, three youth organisations	Creating strategy, making key decisions, supreme control of the process, hiring/ dismissing coordinator. Founded in November 2019 at the beginning of the process. <u>3 members designated by Municipality, 3 voted by Youth City Council and 3 voted by youth organizations in open elections.</u>
EYC Coordinator	Voted by the Advisory Board: <u>must be youth or youth organization representative.</u>	Coordination of each phase of EYC implementation, risk management, overall management. Reporting and part of the Advisory Board
EYC Office	12 people: 6 municipality, 3 young people, 3 youth organisations	Supporting Coordinator, managing volunteer team, implementing programme and strategy. Organizational and administrative role. Reporting do Coordinator. <u>6 members designated by Municipality, 3 voted by Youth City Council and 3 voted by youth organizations in open elections.</u>
EYC Supporting Team	<u>Up to 30 recruited volunteers + 20 interns + approx. 400 volunteers dedicated to planned activities. There will be two separate volunteers and interns dedicated structures described in Section 7 and attachment (detailed programme). Head of the team will be Coordinator of Supporting Team</u>	Supporting the EYC Coordinator and the office. Reporting to assigned office member or event coordinator. <u>Open recruitment process.</u>
EYC Board of Stakeholders	20+ members: a wide range of stakeholder representatives: coalition of youth organisations, local business, youth bodies, Youth Council, representatives of local community, representatives of Advisory Board and EYC Office.	Will be launched after winning the EYC 2023 title. Advisory and consultative voice. No right to make rightful decisions but to express opinion and suggest directions. <u>Meetings 4x a year or when called by Advisory Board.</u>

For the application process the Application Team was also created. The team holds similar responsibility and has same structure as future Advisory Board but was appointed for the application process only.

### **How the decision power will be implemented? Who will have the power to make the final decision on different aspects of the European Youth Capital year?**

All final decisions in the Lublin Municipal Office are with the mayor's remit. Each draft city budget is submitted by the mayor and voted by the Lublin City Council.

However as long as financial aspects exceeding approved budget are not the subject, final decisions regarding EYC management are made by the Advisory Board and the EYC Coordinator (by vote).

### **How the voice of young people from marginalized and disadvantaged groups of society will be ensured within these structures?**

As shown in the table above, each managing and supporting body have youth and youth organization representatives on board; they have the same decision-making rights as other members of these bodies. We will ensure that 50% of youth and youth organizations representatives in all management structure will be coming from marginalized and disadvantaged groups.

We cooperate with the following Polish youth structures:

#### **PROM (Polish Council of Youth Organizations)**

An agreement has been concluded between PROM and Lublin representatives on joint communication efforts to support Lublin in running for Poland-first EYC. PROM is a member of the European Youth Forum.

#### **Eurodesk Poland**

Eurodesk Poland has been supporting our efforts from the very beginning. All applications have been prepared in cooperation with the local Eurodesk Information Point, and we have also received their letter of support. Eurodesk consultants will play an important role in European Youth Week celebrations.

#### **Youth Voice Coalition**

A nationwide coalition of youth organizations (over a dozen) with one youth organization from Lublin in the network enabling cooperation with the structure. We plan to cooperate in EP Assembly Simulations, share experts and, by courtesy of the coalition, we will be able to invite some MEPs to our 2021-2023 events.

#### **Lublin Youth City Council and Federation of Youth Organizations**

The cooperation with the Lublin Youth City Council and FoYO and its key commitment to the process has been described in previous sections. Thanks to this cooperation, we have also enlisted support of numerous youth structures from Poland.

Both in our external cooperation and internal management structures, we will provide gender, social, and group (young people, youth organizations, decision makers, municipality representatives) balance by creating and implementing equality mechanisms.

### **What kind of cooperation is foreseen with the previous, current and upcoming EYCs?**

In 2023 we want to organize a Best Practice Forum with the representatives of previous EYC cities, candidates, and future candidates. We believe that sharing information and

knowledge and simple networking will take the EYC title to another level and create a huge added value for future youth capitals. We believe that such meetings could be even an obligatory part of each EYC celebrations and should take place annually.

Apart from that, we have already reached out for some of the past winners and candidates to discuss best practice, learn from mistakes, and try to build a positive atmosphere around our application.

## 9. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Communication and outreach goals:

- **information** (about the idea of the capital, the purpose of Lublin's application for the title, the current action plan, individual proposals, events),
- **inclusion** of Lublin's youth to participate, to co-create the city, excluded communities, minorities, with disabilities, migrants, LGBT + and all young people living in our city
- **building relationships**, community
- **creating the image Lublin as a youth friendly city**

In order to plan, carry out activities and specific selection of communication tools, we will announce a competition for the leader (operator) of communication activities of the European Youth Capital among non-governmental youth organizations. An important aspect will be to diagnose the needs of the target groups and on this basis to specify and narrow communication channels & leaders - communication moderators, language, communication tools, and content.

Nevertheless, such a study should take place after conducting public research/ consultations in the field of youth needs and after planning program activities (program activities implemented in a participatory model taking into account representatives of youth organizations / groups, minorities, disabled, excluded, etc.).

In communication, one must also not forget about adults. In this group, the communication goal will be to build awareness of the importance of active involvement of young people in urban processes.

Building a community on the Internet (Youtube, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, TikTok and current communication solutions/ possibilities) will be an extremely important communication element of EYC.

**Our communication pillars will be: Partnership, Synergy and Community**

which in practice means increasing social and civic participation of young people and shaping a sense of belonging and synergy with the city.

As part of the preparations, we will conduct research among the target group to determine the channels and tools used by young people on a daily basis and divided more specifically into different age groups. We will define communication leaders: youtubers, influencers, moderators. We will define the opinion-forming environment in each specific age group.

For overall visual communication and main message, please see the **attached Visual Brand Identity** where the entire visual identity context of EYC 2023 is presented. We wanted to have this prepared in order to show our commitment to the process. Yet, the design/graphics are subject to discussions and change.

The main communication message/slogan is **Lublin is YOUTH**. In our opinion, it fully conveys both our understanding of the EYC idea and reflects the actual organization process behind EYC. We consider this message universal, multidimensional, and understandable for all target groups. That is why we decided to use it as a strong and clear communication message.

The way we think about EYC 2023 embraces as many target groups as possible because Lublin is YOUth.

Main target groups:

1. Local: young people aged 10-30, youth organizations, young people with disabilities and reduced opportunities, decision makers, youth workers, public institutions, NGOs (other than youth organizations) city residents, universities, schools, children, parents
2. Regional: young people aged 10-30, youth organizations, young people with disabilities and reduced opportunities, regional youth city councils, decision makers, youth workers, NGOs, public institutions, including schools
3. National: young people aged 10-30, governmental institutions, partner cities and their young residents, decision makers at the national level, youth city councils, national youth organizations, networks of youth organizations (Eurodesk, Polish Council of Youth Organizations), universities
4. European: EC, EU institutions (Eurodesk, Erasmus+, EYF), Lublin partner cities (above 20), MEPs, European youth networks, youth portal.

To make it easier to match target groups with specific activities, all of them have been labelled (Regional, National, European) – see Section 7 and the appendix.

In addition to young people who will be the direct authors of communication activities, the environment in which young people function on a daily basis is also extremely important: teaching staff, parents, guardians, non-governmental organizations, local media, opinion-forming circles.

The aspect of accessibility will be very important to us, both in terms of communication (sign language, translations, audio descriptions) and ensuring full direct participation in the process of creating the offer or the initiatives carried out within the ESM.

**What communication tools will be used to reach diverse audience? Why particular tools have been chosen?**

Main communication channels and tools:

- Youth organization channels: FB, Instagram, websites, etc.
- Youth Information System – we plan to use the youth app designed during the 2021-2023 preparation period as an important communication tool intended for young people
- City channel: all available city channels headed by the Lublin's official website lublin.eu, Facebook and Instagram city profiles (dozens of thousands of followers), municipal institutions, participating in programme profiles/websites (another few dozens of thousands of followers)
- National and international organizations such as the Polish Youth Organization Council, Eurodesk, Erasmus+, the Union of Polish Metropolises, the Union of Polish Universities, Eurocities, EuniverCities, XARXA FP
- Youthportal

Apart from online channels, we will seek the support of “traditional” communication tools: in-bus advertisement, billboards, banners, video commercials, posters, visual displays, wall banners, roll-ups, leaflets, and many others

**Commitment to use the official EYC logo as a part of visual identity of the EYC 2023.**

We are fully committed to cooperate with the European Youth Forum in creating the final visual identity for EYC 2023 including the obligatory use of the official EYC 2023 logo.

## **10. PREPARATION FOR THE EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL**

## **What are the different stages in the preparation process leading to the EYC 2023?**

As mentioned in Section 6, we divided the process into three phases with the following central elements:

1. Initial decision and development of the concept note
  - initial decision
  - appointment of the EYC Team & first meetings
  - creating youth participation structure and management structure
  - first consultations & support letters
  - concept note
2. Preparation of EYC (second & final round application)
  - EYC Team meetings
  - Coordinator of the application process appointed
  - Management structure implementation
  - consultation process
  - constructing supporting network (letters of support)
  - second & final round application + budgeting and risk assessment
2. Implementation of EYC (if winning the title)
  - Management structure implementation (Advisory Board, Coordinator & others)
  - Detailed timetable of implementation
  - yearly budgeting for 2021-2023
  - milestones + monitoring processes
  - updating of management structure
  - budget monitoring
  - one by one implementation of activities from the programme (starting from 2021)

## **What are the key things that will be done in 2021 and 2022 to successfully kick off and implement the EYC 2023?**

For us, EYC 2023 starts in 2021 as explained in other sections. We approach EYC 2023 as a long-term process and not as a one-timer. That is why we have prepared a detailed programme and budget (see the appendix) and will start to implement its elements step by step as from 2021, so the year 2023 we see the culmination and not the beginning of the process.

Key programme elements to be implemented on the road to 2023 (in 2021 and 2022) are focused on creating most important structures for other activities mentioned in budget: Youth Spaces, Interactive Youth Information System, Child & Youth Support Centre, Youth Information and Development Centre.

Certain activities have been planned only in 2023 because we want to make this year special – as mentioned before 2023 will be culmination point so we save some of high profile events for it.

Referring to feedback from second-round application we'd also like to emphasize that out of 80 planned EYC activities, 68% are new ones – designed especially for Lublin EYC 2023 while other 32% has been either heavily changed to meet EYC assumptions or redesigned (annual city events). We believe that this approach shows importance of this title to both young people and municipality of Lublin.

## **How the Short-Listed Candidate is planning build the capacity of the youth sector to successfully take part in and contribute to the implementation of the EYC 2023?**

During previous months, we built a wide coalition of youth organizations, national and European networks supporting our candidacy (see the letters of support). We have agreed with some of the major youth networks (Eurodesk, PROM) to cooperate in this process and to host their statutory meetings and more in Lublin (as a token of confidence). We have placed youth organization representatives into each level of the EYC management structure and have also made the Youth City Council the main driver and “helmsman” of this process. In addition there will be following steps taken to build capacity of local and regional youth sector:

- a series of youth consultation on a final shape of EYC 2023 held monthly starting from December 2020
- establishment of the federation of local youth organizations

These activities will help us to build a supporting structures and strengthen youth capacity not only for EYC 2023 but far beyond.

### **How the Short-Listed Candidate is planning build the capacity of the technical office implementing the EYC 2023?**

The upgraded management structure and its development has been described in Section 8. It is important to mention that the structure has been slightly redesigned and EYC Office responsible for day-to-day management has increased by 100% (12 people in total).

## **11. EVALUATION**

### **Who will carry out the evaluation?**

We plan a 4-way evaluation:

1. Internal financial and organizational evaluation – led by the Financial and Control Department of the Lublin Municipal Office
2. Programme evaluation led by the Advisory Board and coordinator with the focus on goals, priorities, and programme implementation
3. General evaluation led by youth organizations and young people – online surveys, satisfaction surveys, change surveys
4. Final evaluation – led by external, independent leader at the end of the process

### **What will the role of young people and youth organisations in the evaluation process?**

Young people will entirely participate in evaluations 2 and 3 and 4 as members of the Advisory Board and all other bodies and structures involved in evaluation process (see Section 8); extra evaluators will be young people participating in activities.

### **The timeline of the evaluation, including updates of the state for the European Youth Forum?**

1. Financial evaluation – yearly 2021-2023 + final evaluation 2024
2. Programme evaluation: ongoing 2021-2023 + deepen yearly reports
3. General youth evaluation: yearly 2021-2023
4. Final evaluation – end of 2023/ beginning of 2024

### **What will be the scope and the format of the evaluation? What information the city will monitor?**

1. Financial evaluation – financial documents and expenditure transparency
2. Programme evaluation: meeting the key and specific yearly goals (to be set as a result of consultation with young people after winning EYC), implementation of every part of the programme, implementation stand
3. General youth evaluation: satisfaction of youth participation, impact on young people and level of inclusion + a real change effect (If and how EYC 2023 influenced my life)
4. Final evaluation – concerning every aspects of EYC, led by external, independent

evaluator.

All evaluation reports will be easy-to-read and accessible for all range of young recipients with pictures and plain infographics included.

SMART Goals for evaluation and assessment will be set immediately by Advisory Board & Coordinator in cooperation with young people in November/ December 2020. This approach allow same people/ bodies to set up and implement the goals which will lead to better consistency and accuracy.

### **How will the results be disseminated?**

First of all, we are going to draw up an **understandable and user-friendly evaluation report** showing the impact of EYC on the city and young people. We intend it to be an encouragement for other cities to empower young people, a promotion of EYC and of the city of Lublin. The report will be published online as shown below, but also some hard copies will be shared with the most important EYC supporters – all cities and institutions that submitted their letters of support. This will be our way to say “thank you”. We also hope that they will decide to publish the report to generate new results dissemination channels.

Here are other main dissemination platforms:

- Youth organizations channels: FB, Instagram profiles, websites, etc.
- Youth Information System – we plan to use the youth app designed during the 2021-2023 preparations for both evaluation (online surveys for young people) and for the dissemination process (news feed)
- City channel: all available city channels headed by the Lublin’s official website lublin.eu, Facebook and Instagram city profiles (dozens of thousands of followers), municipal institutions, participating in programme profiles/websites (another few dozens of thousands of followers)
- National and international organizations such as the Polish Youth Organization Council, Eurodesk, Erasmus+, the Union of Polish Metropolises, the Union of Polish Universities, Eurocities, EuniverCities, XARXA FP

## **12. IMPACT AND LONG-TERM LEGACY**

### **What will be the immediate effects of the EYC 2023 on the city and its young people (approximately one year after hosting the title)?**

Immediate, most important, and measurable effects having an impact on the situation of young people:

- youth policy strategy
  - pioneer youth information system (youth app)
  - designed budget line for youth initiatives
  - youth spaces (15 altogether)
  - Child&Youth Support Centre
  - Youth Information and Development Centre
  - Recognition for young people impact and importance to the city
- + all the “soft” impact that will be measured regularly during the 2021-2024 period.

### **What will be the legacy of the EYC 2023 for the city and its young people in at least five years after the city hosted the title (including in terms of urban development)?**

- developed youth information system
- easy access to information for young people
- plenty of local youth initiatives run by young people
- developed budget line for youth initiatives – increased at least 50% in relation to existing one.

- implemented youth policy strategy coherent with main city strategy documents
- Youth City Council recognized as an important and real advisory body to the Lublin City Council and the Mayor of Lublin
- Strong position of Lublin as a national leader in implementing youth policies
- Well-developed partnership between the city and youth organizations
- Developed partnerships on national and European level between Lublin and youth networks/ organizations, public bodies, and EU institutions

### **How this legacy will be incorporated in the long-term vision of the city development?**

All the city's effort to become EYC 2023 is also part of our Lublin 2030 strategy, which offers important room to youth policy. Lublin 2030 is to be presented in 2020 and will show city's vision of 2030 both in key thematic areas (including Youth as one of them) and key values based on European Union Treaty. It is in our best interest to fully use this possibility to improve the overall strategy on youth policy by smooth integration of the EYC process with the Lublin 2030 process and making them coherent.

### **What are the plans for sustaining youth related activities beyond the year of the EYC 2023?**

One of the main and early assumptions we made is to continue most of the EYC activities far beyond 2023. This is the way we think: bring most of the activities to the implementation phase as soon as possible. We are going to start in 2021 and continue until 2023 to celebrate the culminating moment – the real youth celebration year. By that time, our planned activities will have been already well-structured and well-positioned within the city budget. Since they will not be only one-timers, it will be natural for them to continue.

All in all, some limited portion of the annual city budget assigned to our initiatives will give us a great advantage in the near future.

### **How this legacy will be linked with the European dimension? What this legacy will bring to other cities across Europe?**

We will bring in joy and youth power! Seriously speaking, the European dimension is very important to us. We have already demonstrated that: we have received over 15 letters of support from our partner cities across Europe. A meeting of EYC past winners and potential candidates will be one of more important events of 2023. Additionally, we plan to organize a 2012 working meeting bringing together representatives of some previous EYC to share their knowledge and experience. If we win, we will also be happy to share it with others. We hope that EYC meetings will become regular (annual) after 2023, which will boost the EYC prestige even more. At the top of this we will issue a Book of EYC 2023 - notes on our experience as EYC 2023. This tool is designed to popularize the idea of EYC among other cities in Europe, to present and disseminate our way of "getting there", our mistakes and successes, pros and cons of our programme, reports and evaluations, conclusions and comments – in a nutshell a book of our experience which is suppose to be a key position to every city applying for EYC in the future.

### **How one will monitor and evaluate the proposed long-term legacy?**

All the application process is a part of "the bigger picture" attitude of the city of Lublin and is a part of the Lublin 2030 strategy. It means that we want and will need to control, monitor, and evaluate the legacy and impact of EYC at least until 2030. In December 2020 complex monitoring and evaluation system will be implemented including SMART Goals (as mentioned in Section 11). During that process we will also define following key elements of EYC 2023 monitoring and measurement process:

- Which quality elements should be monitored and measured.
- Specific methods for monitoring, measurement, analysis, and evaluation
- Which activities are needed to ensure valid results of monitoring and measurements.

- The stages and the intervals in the process when activities of monitoring and measurements must be performed.
- When results of monitoring and measuring shall be analyzed and evaluated.
- Documented information on the results of the monitoring, measurements, analysis, and evaluation

### 13. A. BUDGET INDICATIONS

**Which part of the budget, to which the municipality is committing to, is the recurring municipal budget for youth activities and which represents an increase linked to EYC 2023?**

Based on the concept note feedback, we have prepared a detailed EYC budget with 80 activities and a clear budget itemization. Please, see the **Detailed Activities & Budget appendix** where the budgetary funding is explained and distributed over the 2021-2023 period.

The overall budget of EYC 2023 is EUR 6,791,910.00 of which EUR 3 271 908,00 are new funds dedicated to EYC 2023. **The other part also refers specifically to the EYC 2023 activities, but it comes from internal budget transfers – e.g. from administration, infrastructure and culture departments of the City of Lublin.**

**What is the fund-raising strategy to seek support from private donors? What is the plan for involving private donors in the event?**

As written in second-round application, due to COVID-19 we revised our way of thinking about the EYC budget. Because of the pandemic, we have not been able to keep the private sector input as some key partners have withdrawn or have held back their financial support due to financial uncertainty. That is why we were forced to revisit the whole budget and decided to rely mostly on public money, which, in the time of uncertainty, gives us sense of security and stability. We consider it a responsible move showing our prudent attitude and commitment to deliver accurate calculations based on solid foundations.

As mentioned before, unfortunately little have changed during last 3 months. National and regional economy is suffering due to pandemic and we are not able, for now, to responsibly secure a private share for the application. We cannot predict the contribution of future external partners, and this would be unfair to make ungrounded predictions on their possible engagement. Of course we assume that the situation will change and for that occasion we have both fundraising strategy and a list of potential private contributors ready and some moves already made (with some biggest regional and national companies) but it's too early to announce them yet and on the other hand we don't want to just put unconfirmed amounts into the application's budget. However we managed to raise private share from 10 to over 13% while at the same time we lowered municipality contribution to 62,1%.

We still believe that our responsible attitude reflects in STABLE and REALISTIC budget with growth opportunities.

**Have the public sector already voted on or made financial commitment to support the EYC 2023? If not, when they will do so? Are there any commitments from the private sector (please provide evidence in the annex)? If not existing yet, is there a fund-raising strategy to seek the support from the private sector?**

The Lublin City Council adopted a resolution accepting the city's financial commitment and general involvement in EYC preparation. The resolution was adopted on 23 April 2020 and is attached to this application.

Mayor of Lublin Krzysztof Żuk participated in the Advisory Board meeting when the financial commitment was discussed and accepted it.

The fundraising situation is described above.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

All personell working on EYC 2023 except volunteers will be paid and dedicated specifically to EYC activities.

Total <b>income</b> to cover operating expenditure (EUR)	From the public sector (EUR)	From the public sector (%)	From the private sector (EUR)	From the private sector (%)
6,791,910.00	5,845,933.00	86,07	945,977.00	13,03

What is the breakdown of the **income** to be received from the public sector to cover operating expenditure? Please fill in the table below:

Income from the public sector to cover operating expenditure	EUR	%
EU	1,500,000.00	22,1
National Government	500,000.00	7,4
Regional Government	100,000.00	1,5
Municipality	4,220,270.00	62,1
Other	471,640.00	6,9
<b>Total:</b>	6,791,910.00	100

Please provide a breakdown of the **operating expenditure**, by filling in the table below:

Programme expenditure (EUR and %) <sup>2</sup>	Communications and outreach (EUR and %)	Salaries, office, administration (EUR and %)	Other (please specify) (EUR and %)	Total of the operating expenditure
6,647,410.00 89,04%	144,500.00 2,13%	600,000.00 8,83%	0.00	6,791,910.00 100% (6,791,910+600.000 from external budget)

In addition to EYF feedback, below we distinguish EU, NGO and private funds mentioned in a Budget Annex (F1):

TOTAL (see Annex)	EU	NGO	Private
945.977,00	145,977.00	600.000.00	200.000,00

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Above numbers apply to dedicated new funds for EYC.

<sup>2</sup> Please also provide a detailed programme expenditure in a separate table (can be added to the Annex).

Please provide a breakdown of the **capital expenditure (physical assets such as building renovation, new constructions etc.)**, by filling in the table below:

Income from the public sector to cover operating expenditure	EUR	%
EU	50,000.00	50
National Government	0.00	0
Regional Government	0.00	0
Municipality	50,000.00	50
Other	0.00	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100,000.00</b>	<b>100</b>

### 13. B. EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM'S STATUTORY MEETING

By accepting the European Youth Capital 2023 title, the Awarded City commits to host the European Youth Forum's Statutory Meeting<sup>3</sup> together with the European Youth Capital Award Ceremony<sup>4</sup>. The Short-Listed Candidate is asked to provide a brief overview of the capacity to host such event in terms of possible contribution with resources, income and allocation bearing in mind that the costs of organising and hosting the Statutory Meeting including the Award Ceremony are shared with the European Youth Forum as follows and taking into consideration the guiding notes on how to organize a General Assembly that can be found in the link here: [https://www.youthforum.org/sites/default/files/page-pdfs/How%20to%20organise%20a%20General%20Assembly\\_General.pdf](https://www.youthforum.org/sites/default/files/page-pdfs/How%20to%20organise%20a%20General%20Assembly_General.pdf)

The city of Lublin declares full cooperation in preparing, co-organizing, and conducting the EYF 2023 statutory meeting. The city's capacity and our vast experience in organizing large scale events have been described in detail in Sections 1&2. All the public infrastructure listed therein is potentially capable of hosting the meeting. All the details will be discussed between the city of Lublin officials and EYF representatives. All relevant financial commitments will be shown in the budget if the EYC 2023 title is awarded to Lublin.

### 14. CONTINGENCY PLANNING

**What are the assessed risks regarding the proposed EYC 2023 project? What steps will be taken to mitigate these risks? Please elaborate specifically on the impact of a possible political change on the local or national level and the political support for the EYC 2023.**

We did our best to minimize possible risk and create the most precise, specific, and detailed application possible in this turbulent period. When we think about possible risks, there are three considerable and probable risks that may occur:

- negative political views and actions on a national level especially towards certain progressive civil society organisations and civil right will influence the EYC

<sup>3</sup> Statutory Meeting means either the Council of Members meeting or the General Assembly meeting of the European Youth Forum. The Council of Members meeting takes place two times a year (spring and autumn) during two (2) full calendar days; the General Assembly takes place every two (2) years during three (3) full calendar days. The EYC 2023 shall host European Youth Forum's General Assembly in November 2022.

<sup>4</sup> Award Ceremony means the European Youth Capital Award Ceremony during which the Award is granted to the selected Short-Listed Candidate applying in that year's competition.

programme

Poland is undergoing a politically turbulent period with a conservative national government and actions against certain groups and organizations. Along with some other big cities in Poland Lublin is an exception to this rule. Since 2010 the City is governed by liberal Mayor from Civic Platform Party (PO) and is the only big city in Eastern Poland that openly supports minorities and those repressed. Liberal Civic Platform has also majority in City Council and this won't change at least until 2024. In case of attempts to influence EYC programme we made some changes in management structure and made sure EYC governing body will be independent from political structures (see Section 8).

- COVID-19 pandemic that will seriously affect both the city budget and EYC events  
Our budget is calculated very carefully and in detail and any changes caused by the current situation have been made. It might be not the best possible budget (e.g. small private sector share) but a realistic one and the best we can have as it relies on the solid ground of public funds (the overall EYC budget remains relatively small compared to the city budget, which makes it even more realistic even if the city becomes economically disadvantaged).

The last 6 months also proved us ready to organize EYC events online if necessary and we are ready to do so if necessary. We have also revised all places where activities will be taken and checked them in terms of COVID-19 restrictions. We will try to organize as many events as possible outdoor while indoor activities will be organized with a strict compliance with relevant regulations.

- lack of other stakeholders participating in the budget beyond the Lublin Municipality  
As discussed in Section 13, we need to be clear that at this moment the private sector is almost impossible to get involved financially. However we have conducted a promised talks with important private and social partners who are waiting for the development of the situation. We stand on a solid public money ground and will resume detailed talks with our potential financial partners as soon as possible.

- change of political support for EYC 2023  
Fortunately, this threat is rather unlikely. The upcoming local election is in late 2023, the current city mayor is very popular (has been in the office since 2010) and has a very stable support in the city council. There would have been a real political earthquake to reverse this. What is most important, we have a strong support of both the mayor and the Lublin City Council.

- Lack of transparency and nepotism  
We made significant changes to EYC management structure securing Advisory Board and Coordinator's independent position by distinguishing them from Mayor's office and creating official structure voted by City Council. By securing a balance between members of Advisory board (where only 33,3% appointed by Municipality) we are certain to restrain any external pressures.

When it comes to EYC office contingency planning we rethought the structure especially in case of salaries (it is now clear where the money will come from) and a number of staff (increased by 100%). These actions are to minimize the risk of staff being overload and unhappy with too many responsibilities and too little motivation.

### **What are the strengths of the proposed EYC 2023 project that would contribute to the feasibility to implement the Capital year successfully?**

- the EYC process is already supported by the Lublin City Council (see the relevant council resolution attached)
- the EYC budget is based mostly on public money, which makes it more secure and predictable in uncertain times

- a strong support from the local government with the mayor and deputy mayor participating in Application Team meetings
- information campaign on Lublin's EYC efforts started in April 2020 – it shows the importance of the title to the city officials
- a wide national and international support from different stakeholders (Polish cities, partner cities, local governments, public bodies, officials, youth organizations, associations; over 30 different supporters – see the letters of support. This shows the scale of preparation, too.
- a detailed and well-structured budget for 2021-2023 with precise items and descriptions – 80 initiatives showing that we care and are ready to win the title
- implementation of the specific and multi-stage consultation process in the time of pandemic – showing our will to act even in the very demanding and changing environment
- a relatively low risk of a political shift that could affect the implementation of the project

**15. ANNEXES** – please include the following:

ANNEX I: Written proof of the town or city's interest in running for EYC 2023 (to be signed by the head of executive of the municipal authority).
ANNEX II: A signed and stamped statement of support by an independent local or regional youth council. If no local youth council exists, a relevant coalition of local youth NGOs should support the application with the municipality, in written form.
ANNEX III: A general presentation of the EYC 2023 Short-Listed City and its proposals, to be published on the official website of the European Youth Forum. Format: maximum 2 pages long designed PDF document, in English and including a brief summary.
ANNEX IV: <b>Colliers Report Lublin 2020</b> – a complex and detailed information on city potential including maps.
ANNEX V: <b>Internalisation rate of students in Lublin</b>
ANNEX VI: <b>Letters of support. 49 letters of support</b> (some in PL with EN translation)
ANNEX VII: <b>Detailed Activities &amp; Budget</b> in .xlsx and .pdf formats
ANNEX VIII: <b>Visual Brand Identity</b>
ANNEX IX: <b>Lublin City Council Resolution</b>
ANNEX X: <b>Support letter Youth City Council Rzeszow</b>
ANNEX XI: <b>Support letter Youth City Council</b>

**EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM BANK DETAILS**

Name of Bank	ING bank Marnix Business Branch
Address of bank	1, rue du Trône 1000 BRUXELLES BELGIUM
SWIFT or BIC code	BBRUBEBB
Account number	375-1009152-43
IBAN	BE66 3751 0091 5243

[www.europeanyouthcapital.org](http://www.europeanyouthcapital.org)