

European Citizens' Panel on Learning Mobility

Session 2 – Summary Report

24/03 – 26/03/2023



European Citizens Panel
**learning
mobility**
Have Your Say

[#LearningMobilityEU](#)



1. Overview

The European Citizens' Panel on Learning Mobility consists of 150 randomly selected citizens and meets for three sessions. During the first session, the citizens identified a total of 36 challenges and obstacles standing in the way of inclusive learning mobility in Europe and deserving the Commission's attention. Based on these challenges, the Knowledge Committee (KC) defined three topic-blocks to structure citizens' discussion on solutions and the formulation of recommendations:

- 1) **Topic Block 1:** Overcoming **individual and attitudinal** challenges, obstacles, and dilemmas (personal, psychological, and decision-making barriers)
- 2) **Topic Block 2:** Overcoming **contextual and environmental** challenges, obstacles, and dilemmas (cultural, social and language barriers)
- 3) **Topic Block 3:** Overcoming **institutional and policy-related** challenges, obstacles, and dilemmas (access to information, economic and financial barriers)

The second session took place **online from 24–26 March 2023**. The aim was for citizens to articulate solutions to overcome the challenges and barriers identified in session 1. To that end, Commission officials and varied external speakers gave citizens inputs on these obstacles and presented possible solutions to address them, with special attention to the dilemmas and trade-off existing between them. Eventually, citizens developed **45 draft recommendations** in their working group discussions.

Day 1 (Friday)

On Friday, the citizens were welcomed to the online session by the main moderators and Sophia Eriksson Waterschoot, Director for Youth, Education and Erasmus+ at the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport, and Culture (DG EAC). Thereafter, Ute Haller-Block, Head of Unit at DG EAC, reflected on the outputs of session one and specified the Commission's expectations of the Panel. Mantas Pupinis, Research Director at PPMI and member of the Knowledge Committee, was then invited to explain how the KC clustered the citizens' results from session 1 in three topic blocks. He gave a first overview of dilemmas and trade-offs underlying these challenges, as identified by the KC. To complement this first input round, Mika Saarinen, Director of the Finnish National Agency for Erasmus+ and also member of the Knowledge Committee, provided citizens with information on the Erasmus+ programme as well as on other existing learning mobility programs to contextualise the Panel's work. In three following panel discussions, four speakers elaborated on each of the topic blocks, providing different perspectives, and giving an overview of possible solutions, dilemmas, and questions in their respective topic block. The speakers were invited based on the results from session 1. At the end of each panel discussion, citizens had the opportunity to ask questions. Finally, the main moderators outlined the weekend's agenda and recalled the overarching purpose of the panel.

Day 2 (Saturday)

On Saturday, citizens worked in parallel in 12 working groups that were simultaneously interpreted and facilitated by experienced facilitators. Note-takers documented the process in multilingual spreadsheets enabling peaks in other groups' work. All groups started the day by exploring the first topic block, overcoming psychological and attitudinal obstacles. They agreed on cross-cutting elements to keep in mind when drafting recommendations aimed at overcoming contextual (topic block 2) and institutional and policy-related challenges (topic block 3). Hereafter, each working group produced up to two draft recommendations for each of those two topic blocks. In the afternoon, each group sent one ambassador to another working group to pitch their draft recommendations and receive their feedback. Throughout the day, citizens could ask questions to experts in the Knowledge and Information Centre (KIC). Answers were provided on Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning.

Day 3 (Sunday)

On Sunday morning, citizens within their working groups integrated the feedback received from the other groups and, where applicable, the experts' answers. This **resulted in 45 draft recommendations across the 12 working groups**. For the following final plenary, each group selected one spokesperson. Each spokesperson then presented two of their group's recommendations to the whole Panel. Upon these presentations, citizens received feedback on their ideas by a member of the Knowledge Committee, Mika Saarinen, and a representative of the European Commission, Ute Haller-Block. In turn, citizens were able to ask questions to these two speakers and to share their own feedback on the current session, also supported by three questions on Slido. Lastly, citizens received an overview of the last session and the next steps.

2. List of speakers and experts involved

Throughout the second session, the following experts participated as speakers in the plenary and as members of the Knowledge and Information Centre (KIC), in which they answered citizens' questions:

Members of the KIC

- **Mantas Pupinis**, Research Director at PPMI and Project Manager of the ongoing 'Study on supporting learning mobility: progress, obstacles and the way forward'
- **Mika Saarinen**, Director, Finnish National Agency for Erasmus+ (EDUFI)
- **Gina Ebner**, Secretary General, European Association for the Education of Adults
- **Fabienne Metayer**, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
- **Marta Guitierrez Benet**, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
- **Svava B. Finsen**, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
- **Kinga Szebeni**, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion
- **Jutta König-Georgiades**, Directorate-General for Communication
- **Steffen Schulz**, Directorate-General for Communication

Speakers (external and EC members)

- **Mantas Pupinis**, Research Director at PPMI and Project Manager of the ongoing 'Study on supporting learning mobility: progress, obstacles and the way forward'
- **Mika Saarinen**, Director, Finnish National Agency for Erasmus+ (EDUFI)
- **Gina Ebner**, Secretary General, European Association for the Education of Adults
- **Wim Gabriels**, Director and coordinator of the Social Inclusion and Engagement in Mobility, Erasmus Student Network
- **Christoph van Mol**, Assistant Professor, Tillburg University
- **Irina Ferencz**, Director, Academic Cooperation Association
- **Gregorio Blanco Martin**, Head of English Department and Erasmus Coordinator, IES Gabriel Alonso de Herrera
- **Ewa Krzaklewska**, Assistant Professor, Jagiellonian University
- **Ruben Sansom**, Coordinator of Clean Mobility, Generation Climate Europe
- **Brikena Xhomaqi**, Director, Lifelong Learning Platform
- **Audrey Frith**, Director, Eurodesk Brussels Link
- **Søren Kristensen**, Consultant, Techne
- **Ute Haller-Block**, Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
- **Vito Borelli**, Team Leader, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture

- **Chiara Riondino**, Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

3. Short agenda

Friday (24/03)	Plenary
14:30 – 14:50	Welcome, presentation of outputs from Session 1 and agenda for session 2
14:50 -15.35	Moving from obstacles to solutions for learning mobility for all Speakers from the European Commission and the Knowledge Committee
15:35 - 15:55	<i>Break</i>
15:55 – 16:40	Topic block 1: Overcoming personal and psychological barriers Interviews with experts and Q&A
16:40 – 17:20	Topic block 2: Overcoming cultural, social and language barriers Interviews with experts and Q&A
17:20 – 17:40	<i>Break</i>
17:40 – 18:20	Topic block 3: Overcoming barriers related to information, economy and finance Interviews with experts and Q&A
18:20 – 18:30	Next steps and closing remarks
Saturday (25/03)	Working Groups
9:30 – 9:45	Group building/ice breaker
9:45 – 11:00	Slot 1: Group work on draft recommendations (Topic block 1)
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Break</i>
11:30 – 13:00	Slot 2: Group work on draft recommendations (Topic blocks 2 and 3)
13:00 – 14:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:30 – 16:00	Slot 3: Group work on draft recommendations (Topic blocks 2 and 3)
16:00 – 16:30	<i>Break</i>
16:30 – 18:00	Slot 4: Feedback between groups
Sunday (26/03)	Working Group
9:30 - 11:15	Slot 5: Consolidating draft recommendations
11:15 – 11:30	<i>Break</i>
	Plenary
11:30 – 12:40	Presentations from groups and feedback
12:40 – 12:55	<i>Break</i>
12:55 – 13:20	Reactions from experts on work done in session 2 Interaction and Q&A
13:20 – 13:30	Wrap-up and closing remarks

4. Recordings of the plenary sessions

- **Friday, 24/03/2023, 14:30-18:30 CET:** <https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/european-citizens-panel-on-learning-mobility-session-2-plenary-20230324%20>
- **Sunday, 26/03/2023, 11:30-13:30 CET:** <https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/european-citizens-panel-on-learning-mobility-session-2-plenary-20230326>