





Regions and cities, pillars of the EU's future





# Boosting the attractiveness of rural towns and the EU for the youth

#Europe Closer to Citizen #youthandspa



#### Structure of this session

- **❖** Youth&SPA intro
- **❖**Kahoot
- **Stories of our decision-makers**
- **❖** World café
- **Summary**



#### Youth&SPA project

Activating and involving the YOUTH in shaping the future of rural SPA towns



www.youthandspa.eu

Instagram: youth\_spa

Facebook: Youth&SPA Hévíz



**Erasmus + KA3** Dialogue Between Young People And Policy Makers

**Duration:** 01 Sept 2018 to 31 Dec 2019

#### **Partners**

- Municipality of **Hévíz**, Hungary
- Municipality of Iseo, Italy
- Municipality of Kanjiža, Serbia
- Harghita County Council, Romania
- Adult Education Center of Lendava, Slovenia













# Professional support provided by HETFA Research Institute (Hungary) Our profile:

- Policy evaluation and impact assessment
- Urban and territorial development
- Entrepreneurship, competitiveness
- **❖**International cooperation

#### You can reach us:

\*Web: www.hetfa.eu

**❖Linkedin**: HÉTFA Group

**❖ E-mail**: internationaloffice@hetfa.hu





#### The reason behind

- Cities with medicinal lakes
- Attracting mainly seniors
- Providing job opportunity mainly related to tourism
- Migration of young people

BUT young people can be motivated, involved and leadership can be provided to them in formulating their cities' future



#### Main aims of Youth&SPA:

- Launch a transnational and intergenerational dialogue among young people and decision-makers to identify good practices
  - Formulate youth strategy and recommendations



Make attractive small spa towns in rural regions for young people





#### Focus points

- 1. Freedoms of the EU, mobility in the EU and volunteering
- 2. Intercultural dialogue, power of cultures, multicultural communities
- 3. Young entrepreneurship and start-ups
- 4. Importance of local **products**









#### Main means







#### Youth&SPA final study

- Results of transnational meetings
- Policy recommendations and
- Youth Strategy



Available: <a href="https://youthandspa.eu/introduction/publications/">https://youthandspa.eu/introduction/publications/</a>



#### Why are we here?

- Learn
- Start dialogue
- Contribute to the future
- Shape policy-making



https://kahoot.it/





Speaker: József Kepli

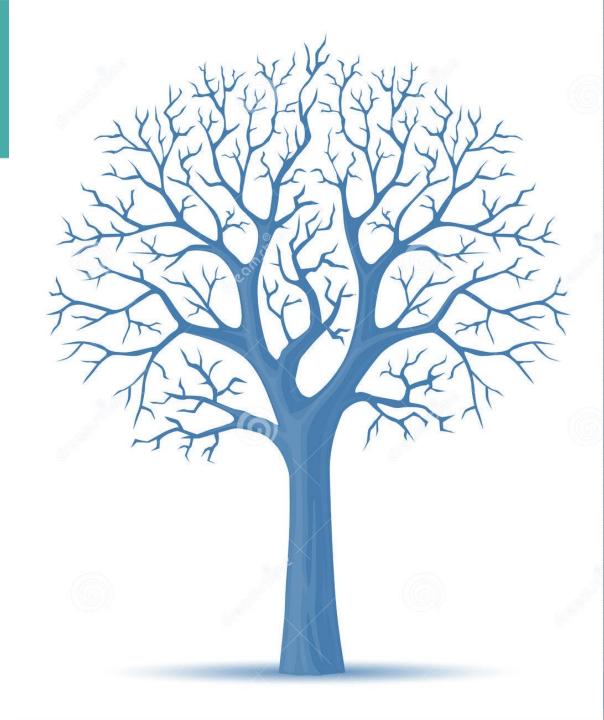
Vice Mayor, Municipality of Hévíz





### The "problem tree"

- Migration of youth
- Lack of employment opportunities beside tourism
- Lack of housing
- Lack of free time opportunities
- Lack of communication and representation





## Change the approach

Youth migration is a "natural phenomena"



# Set a platform Tackle the problem from the root...

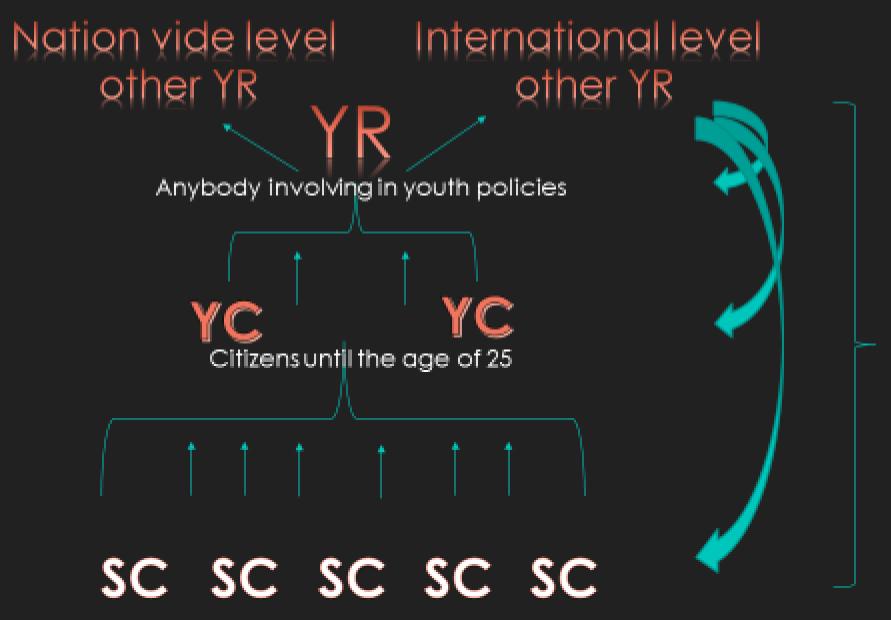
Hear, know, familiarize, take actions, and follow results to take further actions



#### Take actions in:

- encouraging intercultural and intergenerational dialogue to know better the needs of young people and to strengthen the cooperation between youth and decision-makers,
- providing educational trainings for young people to develop their skills and competences,
- providing mentor system for youth to exploit their (international) possibilities,
- establishing a place for youth with cultural and educational programmes (e.g.: a Youth Club),
- exploiting better the financial support from the EU.

name	Youth Roundtable	YR
level	local	
Founded by	Project founden	
Form	informal	GO, NGO,
Communication	Decision makers regional national	Goes international
name	Youth Council	YC
level	Local	neighbours
Founded by	Local government	sponzors
Form	egyesület	
Communication	18+ youth/decision makers	Other YC
name	Student Council	sc
level	local	elementary/midel/highered.
Founded by	School	
Form	informal	
Communication	Pupils-school	Other IÖ



Information flow

Students attending the local schools



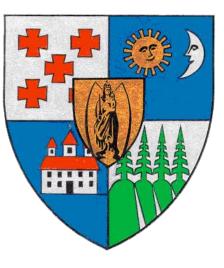
## Starting with

- appointing a qualified person who deals with youth issues at the municipality;
- looking for financial and human resource to establish the Youth Council;
- facilitating the cooperation between the actors;
- introducing lessons in the school about active citizenship and democratic participation, thus youngsters will understand better the issues affecting the town and will be more committed to participate actively;
- voting for leaders of the student's government of school who can represent the interest of young people in the municipality by participating in meetings about the town's affairs;
- finding mentors who deal with youth representatives regularly.



József Kepli Vice mayor of Hévíz

keplijozsef@gmail.com



Speaker: Csaba Borboly

President of Harghita County Council

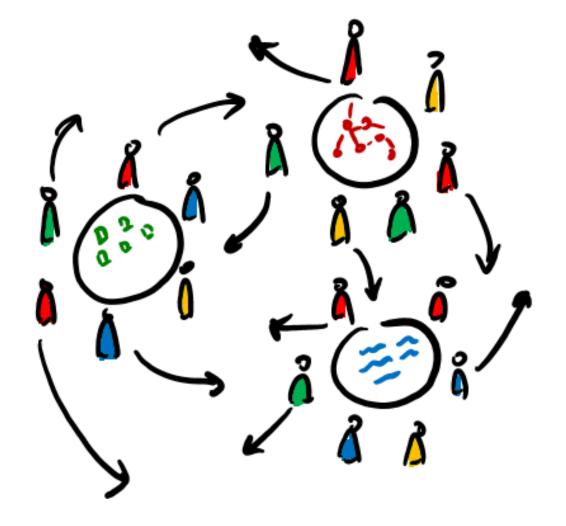
Member of CoR

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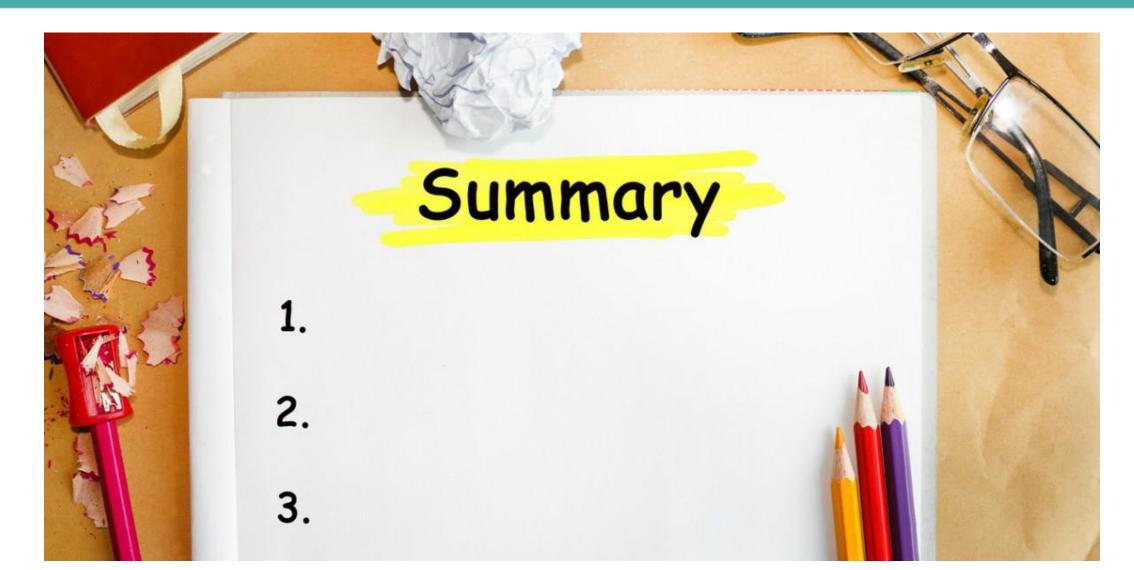
# World café





#### World café

- 1. Community building activities in rural towns
- 2. Possibility of launching Youth Council
- 3. Youth migration
- 4. Lack of interest of youngsters towards decision-making processes and EU







www.youthandspa.eu

Youth&SPA Hévíz



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#### **Networking**

in front of the room JDE 53 (Networking station number 3)

