

# EUSAIR YOUTH COUNCIL



## Proposal to Extend the Mandate of EUSAIR Youth Council Members Reaching the Age of 30

### Purpose of the Proposal:

The EUSAIR Youth Council provides a meaningful platform for young people to contribute to regional cooperation and EU policymaking. Members receive training and gain experience that is valuable both to their personal development and to the functioning of the Council.

Under the current rules, members cannot continue their mandate if they turn 30 during the year. This can lead to early exits, especially for those who join at age 28 or 29—cutting short their ability to contribute just as they become fully engaged and effective. [\(example: the situation with Altin Guberi, the now former Youth Council Member from Albania\).](#)

### Proposal Summary:

We propose allowing members who turn 30 during their mandate to extend their service for one additional year, with their mandate ending at the end of the calendar year in which they are 30.

### Why This Change?

- **Better use of investment:** Members go through training and gain experience that takes time to develop. Allowing them to stay one more year ensures this investment pays off.
- **Stronger Council performance:** More experienced members can support newer ones, provide continuity, and contribute more confidently to discussions and projects.
- **Alignment with other European youth bodies:** Many youth initiatives across Europe (e.g. the EU Youth Dialogue) allow some flexibility with age limits to retain experienced members and support transition.

### **Proposed Amendment to Section 2.1 of the Concept Paper:**

*"Members must be between 18 and 29 years old at the beginning of their first EUSAIR Youth Council mandate. The mandate lasts for one year, with the possibility of two annual extensions. Members who turn 30 during their service may extend their mandate for one additional year, provided the extension ends no later than the end of the calendar year in which they turn 30. New applicants must be under 30 at the time of application."*

### **Conclusion**

This simple, reasonable update would make the EUSAIR Youth Council more effective, fairer to older selected members, and more in line with other European youth structures. It ensures that well-trained and motivated young people can continue contributing during a key stage of their engagement.