

Rural youth participation in policymaking



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WHO WE ARE?

- u **GIVE BACK GIOVANI AREE INTERNE APS** is an Italian **Think Tank** of students, researchers, and professionals in the economic, social, and cultural fields.
- u We organize initiatives for **dialogue** between **young people** and **policymakers** and develop **policy-making proposals** for **rural areas**, drawing inspiration from the **values of the European Union**.
- u The **depopulation** causes the dispersion of **intelligences** and the social and cultural impoverishment of our communities of origin, which have given us so much and could give us so much more. Therefore, we are driven by the desire to **give back** in order to **rebuild!**
- u We believe in the role of **culture** and **education**, which represent a tool for synergistically addressing common challenges and enhancing the peculiarities of our **territories**.
- u **GIVE BACK** aims to create a **community** that **thinks globally** and **acts locally**.



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POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 1) EUROPEAN STRATEGY FOR YOUTH (GOAL 6: ADVANCING RURAL YOUTH);
- 2) ERASMUS+ ACTION KA154: YOUTH PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES;
- 3) EUROPEAN COMMISSION COMMUNICATION OF JUNE 30, 2021;
- 4) ITALIAN NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR INLAND AREAS (STRATEGIA NAZIONALE AREE INTERNE, TSNAI).



Bridging youth and policy-makers: *lessons learnt from our activities*

u From our experience, the collaboration between youth and policy makers in rural areas can be reinforced through the following combination:

- *knowledge*
- *network*
- *creativity*



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- u **Creativity:** The future of Rural Areas lie in the capacity of young people to imagine a new future, new ventures and ideas to re-shape their reality.
- u **Knowledge:** There is no future without the capacity to know the problems, but also the solutions, applicable. Only through a profound knowledge of the problematics, but also the successes of other rural areas, it is possible to shape a new path.
- u **Network:** The best chance for rural areas and young people is the capacity to connect both vertically and horizontally with who shares their own goals. The European Union and its investments and project, as the Erasmus, are a perfect example of the network building necessary to sustain this change.



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