# **EUROPARC** Federation

Youth empowerment

Presented by: Alberto Madrassi,

EUROPARC Youth Council madrassialberto@gmail.com



EUROPARC Federation was founded in 1973 with the aim of supporting Protected Areas to fulfill their role as preservers of Europe's natural beauty.











#### Our vision:

# Sustainable Nature; Valued by People.

## **EUROPARC Sections**

- Nordic-Baltic
- Atlantic Isles
- Central and Eastern Europe
- Low Countries
- Germany (Nationale Naturlandschaften e.V.)
- Francophone
- Italy (Federparchi)
- Spain
- Members no section



# +400 members in 40 countries



- Protected Areas
- National governmental organizations
- NGO's
- Regional Government Agencies
- Other official Agencies Associations
- Supporting organisations
- Honorary and individual members



#### Get to know them!

https://www.europarc.org/aboutus/network/members/



# **EUROPARC Strategy 2030**

Involve youth in the work of Protected Areas Youth are engaged in decision making and delivery across all areas of Protected Area work integral to our work.

Youth+ and Junior Rangers are experienced ambassadors and advocates for biodiversity in protected areas, and for taking forward the youth manifesto, through taking part in on and offline capacity building networking and training.

EUROPARC Youth have been given opportunities to represent their views at European policy and decision makers.





Youth



Capacity Building





Experienced Ambassadors





Youth Voice @ all levels

# The EUROPARC Youth Manifesto

The EUROPARC Youth Manifesto is a source of ideas and inspiration for decision makers in Protected Areas and rural communities to ensure the involvement and empowerment of young people.

We need to create more self-sufficient, diverse and resilient rural communities across Europe.

This cannot be done unless young people are fully engaged into the work of Protected Areas, biodiversity and rural community development.

Youth Manifesto

A CALL FOR CHANGE
IN RURAL COMMUNITIES
AND PROTECTED AREAS

SCOTLAND, UNITED KINDON SEPTEMBER 2016



LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND GIVE US THE CHANCE TO TAKE THE LEAD.

# The EUROPARC Youth Manifesto

- May 2018 First workshop week (Cairngorms National Park)
  - Experience sharing, ideating and drafting
- June 2018 Second workshop week (Kalajoki, FI)
  - Focus on youth governance, finalization of the Youth Manifesto and planning of the presentation
- September 2018 EUROPARC Conference
  - Official launch of the Youth Manifesto and lobbying

The EUROPARC Youth Manifesto was created as an output of a transnational LEADER project.



IN RURAL COMMUNITIES AND PROTECTED AREAS







































# The EUROPARC Youth Manifesto

### 1. Youth empowerment

Young people care about sustaining rural landscapes but are underrepresented in the decision-making process.

Some key things to do to address the problem:

- Establish youth councils to bring young people's ideas and needs to local and national decision makers
- Enable youth groups to share their achievements
- Create a youth project fund for projects planned, implemented and reported upon by young people



A CALL FOR CHANGE
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CAIRNGORMS RATIONAL PAR SCOTLAND, UNITED KINDGO SEPTEMBER 2016



Young people want to be **heard** and **entrusted** with the opportunity for direct involvement in decision-making.

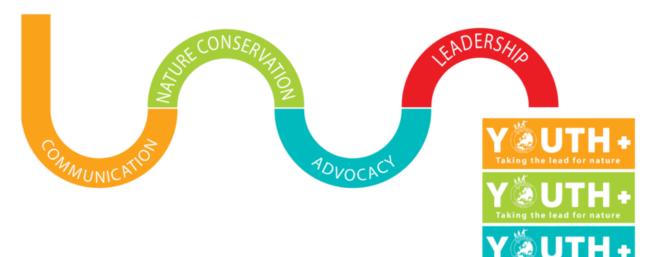


# SKILLED RANGERS / MENTORS

#### 15 Protected Areas in 11 Countries

**Age:** 18 – 30 years old

Participants: Mostly local (rural) youth



Requested through youth action.

Aims to provide guidance and support to Protected Areas for the successful engagement of young people.

Enables youth to be ambassadors of their local Protected Areas.





# Pillars of the Youth+ Programme





### Communication



# **Nature Conservation**



### Advocacy

- Ambassadors for Protected Areas
- Raising awareness about local and European campaigns
- Contributing towards policy at all levels



## Leadership

- Assisting with JR programme
- Leading own initiatives
- Having a role in the Protected Area governance

# Youth empowerment in action

### Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park



→ Youth Committee

### **Italian Julian Alps Biosphere Reserve**



→ Youth Advisory Board

## **Yorkshire Dales National Park**



→ Internal Youth Forum



# **EUROPARC Youth Council**

The EUROPARC Youth Council is a step forward to promote youth engagement in decision making as requested in the EUROPARC Youth Manifesto.

**Aim:** to strengthen the voice of youth in EUROPARC by sharing youth input on topics across EUROPARC's programmes.



# Just a little tangent...

We want to learn about the perspectives of young people regarding natural protected areas.

The survey will take no more than five minutes to answer, and you will help us prioritise topics to work on.

We will then be able to amplify your voices and bring them to the EUROPARC Council.





# **EUROPARC Youth Manifesto**





The Youth Manifesto is also available in: German, French, Dutch, Welsh and Russian

Youth Manifesto

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IN RURAL COMMUNITIES
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CAIRNGORMS RATIONAL PARK SCOTLAND, UNITED KINDSON SEPTEMBER 2016



# **EUROPARC**

Thank you for attention!

