

# The COVID-19 Pandemic and Youth Organisations in Turkey: Coping Mechanisms and Successful Responses

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**RESEARCH SEMINAR ONLINE**

**“Evidence-based approach in Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps Research in the time of a pandemic”**

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# About the RAY-COR Research Project



RAY Network Research Project on the Impact of the Corona Pandemic on Youth Work in Europe (RAY-COR)

Funded by the Erasmus+ National Agency of Turkey.

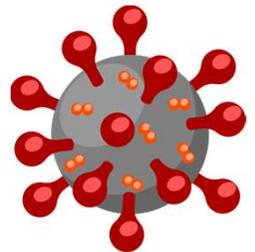


Explorative interviews with 19 representatives from five youth organisations in Turkey.

A remote interview methodology.

Interviews conducted on 11-19 February 2021.

~ 1 year with



# FOUR CHALLENGES created by the COVID-19 pandemic

1

## limitations to mobility

- No physical encounters.
- Remote education.
- No international travels.

2

## lock-down measures

- Activities stopped, cancelled, delayed, transferred to other locations.

3

## ban of general assembly meetings of the associations

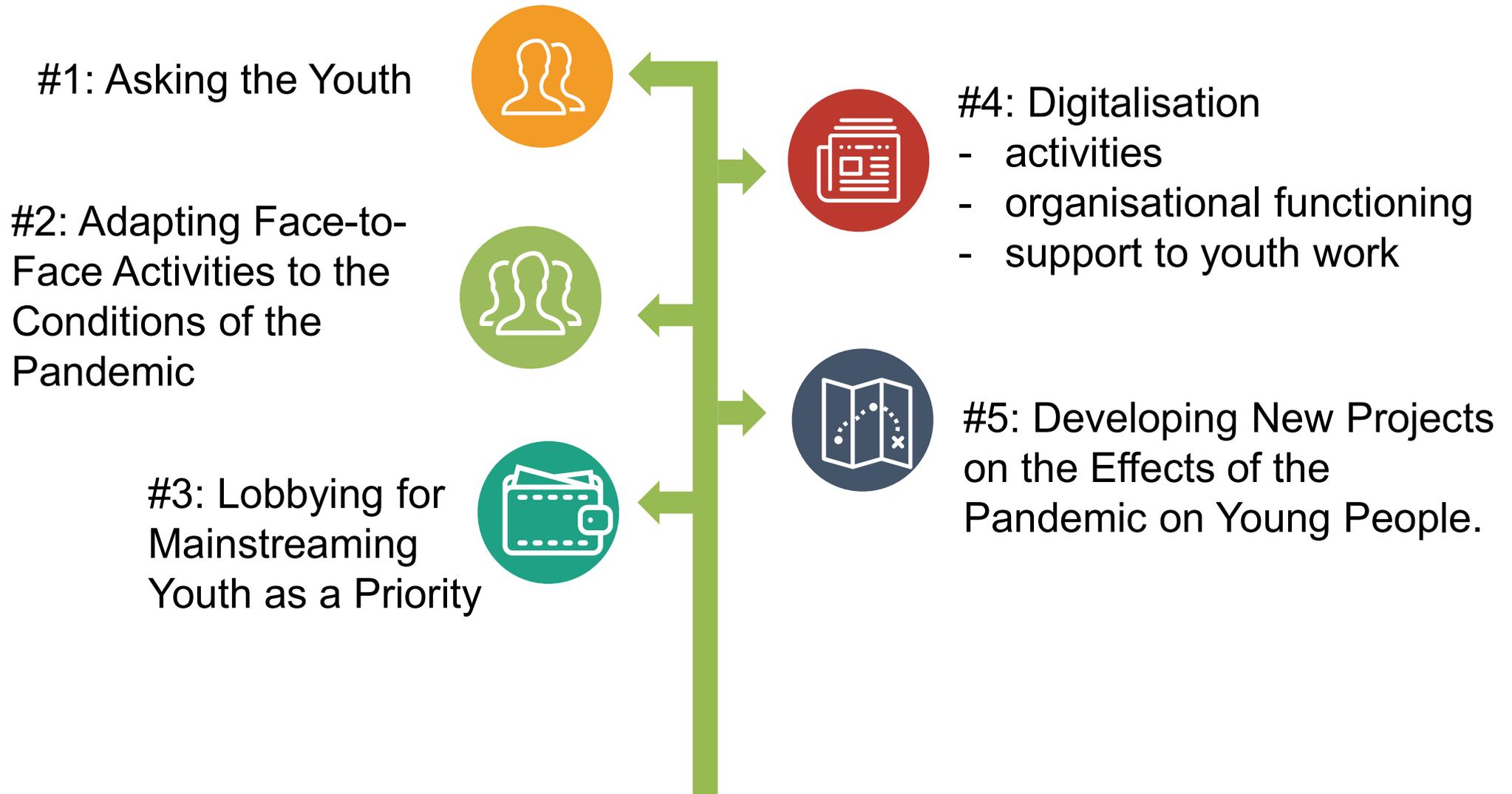
- No meetings.
- No elections for executive boards.
- Limited participation.

4

## financial difficulties

- Delayed contracts and payments.
- New costs (e.g. digitalization).
- Crisis situations and crisis management.

# FIVE RESPONSES by the Youth Organisations



## Response #1: “Asking the Youth”



### “Mapping” the needs of young people.

- Identifying the challenges and violation of rights among the young people due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- Responding to those challenges.

### “Documentary”: Youth rights during the pandemic.

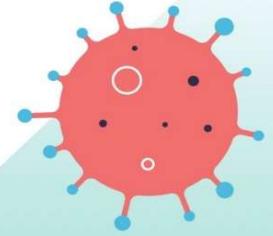
- Documenting the loss of rights of young people during the pandemic.
- Increasing the visibility of the specific challenges of young people.

#### Covid-19 Problem Haritası

Covid-19 hepimizin hayatını etkiledi, bazılarının ise gelire, eğitime erişmesini zorlaştırdı. Pandemi süresince genç bireylerin yaşadığı problemleri ve hak ihlallerini raporlamaya çalışıyoruz. Siz de virüsten etkilendiyseniz yaşadığınız problemi bizle paylaşın.

Problemleri görüntüle

Problemini paylaş



## Response #2: “Adapting Face-to-Face Activities to the Conditions of the Pandemic”



### Continuation of in-person activities.

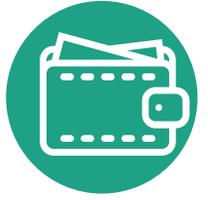
- Demand from the target group
- Responding to the perceived needs of target group
- Consulting and confirming with the participants



- Additional efforts and arrangements needed.
- Additional costs occurred.
- Cooperation with the public institutions enhanced.



# Response #3: “Lobbying for Mainstreaming Youth as a Priority”



## Lobbying

- Realising the narrowed range of action for youth organisations.
- To ensure access to funds by youth organisations, initiated by donors during the pandemic.



## Response #4: “Digitalisation of activities”



### Transfer of activities to online and digital platforms.

- ...online language and speaking clubs, online information seminars, online trainings within their on-going projects and electronic publications.
- Redesigning activities in a digital format, adopting interactive methods and instruments in a non-formal learning setting.
- Innovative interventions.
- Creation of visual tool boxes.



**ÜCRETSİZ**  
Online İngilizce Kursları

- 6 Ekim 2020 Salı, 13:45-15:00  
INTERMEDIATE "Travel dreamers"  
w/ Geced volunteers!
- 8 Ekim 2020 Perşembe, 13:45-15:00  
INTERMEDIATE "Music Geeks club"  
w/ Geced volunteers!

Sorularınız için  
[gegedorg@gmail.com](mailto:gegedorg@gmail.com)

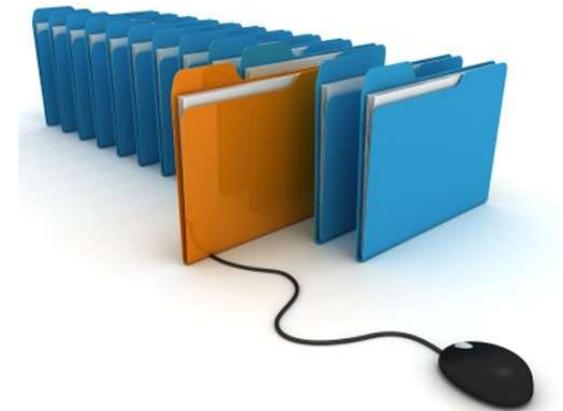
 duolingo events 



## Response #4: “Digitalisation of organisational functioning”

### Sustaining organisation’s daily work routines digitally.

- Online team meetings.
- Digital archives.



## Response #4: “Digitalisation to support youth work”



### Support activities for youth work provided through digital instruments.

- Developing new and innovative digital instruments to support the youth workers, youth organisations and youth work in general.
- Creating a digital archive/memory for youth work.



# Response #5: “Developing New Projects on the Effects of the Pandemic on Young People”



## New projects

- Thinking about the post-pandemic period and adaptation of youth.
- Developing and discussing future scenarios together with young people.

**KEGED**  
KENTSEL GELİŞİM DERNEĞİ



**PANDEMİ  
SONRASI  
GENÇLİK  
ADAPTASYONU  
SENERYOLARI  
PROJESİ**



MALATYA  
**YESİLYURT**  
BELEDİYESİ

**N**  
NİŞANTAŞI  
ÜNİVERSİTESİ

**SIYAMDER**

# Identified Success Factors for the Youth Organisations

Being and having engaged with young people before and during the pandemic.

Engagement

Being able to mobilise human resources and technical capacity. → High adaptation and crisis management capacity.

Institutional capacities

In terms of reorganisation of work, activities, human resources, relations with the donors.

Flexibility

With the public institutions, their national/international partners, other youth organisations, experts, networks...

Cooperation