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## Corporate content on communication for outreach networks

European Commission, Directorate General for Communication, unit C.4

### To keep you in the big picture

#### EU boosts humanitarian aid to Lebanon

Last week offered no respite from the raging conflict in the Middle East, but it was also marked by the Commission efforts to bring immediate relief. As the escalation of hostilities between Hezbollah and Israel continues, the Commission [boosted humanitarian aid to Lebanon by €30 million](#). This comes in addition to the €10 million already announced on 29 September and brings total **EU humanitarian assistance** to Lebanon to over €104 million this year. Nearly 2 million Lebanese and Syrian refugees are estimated to be food insecure. This number is expected to rise further. Since 2011, the EU allocated over €971 million in humanitarian aid to respond to the urgent needs of the population, both Lebanese and refugees. As the situation worsened for the broader Lebanese population, especially since 2019, EU humanitarian aid is being delivered both to Syrians and Lebanese who are most in need. [This new emergency aid package](#) will provide urgent food assistance, shelter and health care amongst other essential support. The Commission is also facilitating the delivery of material assistance via the EU Civil Protection Mechanism to Beirut. The latest and all the background [here](#).

#### Commission to distribute 35,500 free DiscoverEU travel passes to young people

With our second headline we turn to home turf events: starting next spring, thousands of 18 year-olds will have the opportunity **to explore Europe at no cost**. [The Commission has just opened the applications](#) for the latest round of the DiscoverEU initiative. A total of 35,500 travel passes are available. To qualify, young people born between 1 January and 31 December 2006 must fulfil a number of criteria. Participants will also receive [a discount card](#) with over 40,000 deals on public transport, culture, accommodation, food, sport and other services. Special support is available for participants with disabilities or health conditions, in line with the Erasmus+ programme's focus on social inclusion. The call is open to young people from the EU and [countries associated to the Erasmus+ programme](#) including Iceland, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia and Türkiye. The call is open until **16 October at 12:00 CET**. Learn [more](#).

## Member States back up Commission proposal to impose tariffs on imports of battery electric vehicles from China

With our third pick we turn our eyes to the support the Commission received from the Member States last to **impose definitive countervailing duties** [on imports of battery electric vehicles](#) from China. This represents another step towards the conclusion of the [Commission's anti-subsidy investigation](#). In parallel, the EU and China continue to work hard to explore an alternative solution that would have to be fully WTO-compatible, adequate in addressing the injurious subsidization established by the Commission's investigation, monitorable and enforceable. A Commission Implementing Regulation including the definitive findings in the investigation must be published in the Official Journal by 30 October 2024, at the latest. Further reading [here](#).

## 22nd European Week of Regions and Cities in motion

We are bringing you with this headline a taste of the [European Week of Regions and Cities](#) taking place this week. The four-day event brings together a diverse mix of stakeholders, project promoters and practitioners, researchers, and journalists, and will provide an opportunity to look back on **the many achievements of Cohesion Policy** during the current Commission mandate. It's also an opportunity to discuss **how the Policy can best continue to fulfil its EU Treaty mission** of promoting economic, social, and territorial cohesion across the EU. The European Week of Regions and Cities is [the biggest annual Brussels-based event dedicated to Cohesion Policy](#). Under the motto '**Empowering Communities**', this year's edition will welcome approximately **5,000 participants** across nearly **200 sessions**, to discuss common challenges for Europe's regions and cities. The latest [here](#).

## Wanted: Young translation talents

**Yes, the title betrayed the content: Juvenes Translatores**, the annual EU-wide translation contest for **17-year-old secondary school students**, is drawing to a close. Every November on contest day over 3,000 teenagers translate a page of creative writing on a topical subject from any one of the EU's 24 official languages into any of the other 23. The number of schools invited to enter the contest in each country is the same as the number of seats it has in the European Parliament – 720 in total across the EU. The 27 winning students — one per EU member state — are invited to an award ceremony in Brussels, accompanied by teachers and parents. Registration is open until **14 October 2024, 12 PM** (Central European Time). Find out [more](#).

Might wish to share among your networks

## The Citizens, Equality, Rights, and Values Programme

How about promoting a unique source of EU funding to sustain and further develop open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies? The **Citizens, Equality, Rights, and Values Programme** programme invests over 1.5 billion euros in projects and organisations to help make Europe stronger. The programme funds projects and organisations across four thematic strands: union values, equality, rights, and gender equality, citizens' engagement and participation, and daphne. Full details [here](#).