



THE URBAN YOUTH CIRCLE

The Bid of Baia Mare for the European Youth Capital of 2022

Baia Mare lost a third of its population in the last 25 years. It has a challenge to stop a trend which might lead to its complete decline. I believe at least every second city of Europe faces a similar challenge.

The answer for this is very simple: young people and sustainability leading to happiness. The Municipality of Baia Mare and myself as mayor are committed to increase the quality of life of citizens and these two assets, young people and sustainability are the answer for this purpose. Not the least, all of us follow one main dream: A HAPPY CITY.



THE CITY

You can find Baia Mare in the northern part of Romania, surrounded by beautiful green mountains and crossed by Săsar river. Here, the climate is moderate and has always been gentle and friendly to all life in the area. The city is the capital of Maramureş County, a region which is known for its rich historical, cultural and natural legacy. Because of the shielded geographical position, Maramureş and Baia Mare were avoided by natural disasters and great historical conflicts (though the gold and silver in the mountains were definitely an attraction). **The populations here always had their own way of dealing with foreigners who took over the rest of Transylvania over the centuries - one that was generally peaceful. They learned and accepted the values which they resonated with, offered hospitality, but never forgot about their own values, beliefs and culture.**

THE REBIRTH

*Nevertheless, **Baia Mare was reborn through its young citizens, beginning with the first years after communism.** Through its institutions, youth organisations, but mostly through its youngsters, youth leaders, youth workers and other persons that supported the youth sector development, Baia Mare managed to become an example of good practice in this field at a national level. **The recognition of this came when Baia Mare won the title of Romanian Youth Capital 2018- 2019.***

THE CONCEPT

Our answer to the call of the European Youth Forum is the 22.BAIAMARE.RO programme and the URBAN YOUTH CIRCLE concept.

22.BAIAMARE.RO (Urban Youth Circle) is the concept and proposal of Baia Mare (and the surrounding historic region of Maramureş) for the European Youth Capital title of 2022. 22.BAIAMARE.RO is about

an original and innovative approach aiming to address the topic of sustainability in an urban and regional development process focusing on the participation of youth in the process.

The programme addresses the circle of human innovation and sustainability in urban development in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals with the core presence and participation of youth.

HOW DO WE SEE CREATING THE FUTURE?

*The Urban Youth Circle builds on three main priorities enhanced by three horizontal layers which providing the right setting for the three priorities to be followed. The Urban Youth Circle is about the **Human-Self**, acting **Among-Humans** while being influenced by the **Human-and-Nature** relationship. The Urban Youth Circle happens in a **Human-Time** (from 2018 to 2025 with a main peak in 2022) and in a specific **Human-Space** (which is Baia Mare, as the physical space for the European Youth Capital but also other physical spaces, such as the surrounding nature-rich Maramures, but other cities and regions of Europe, too, completed by a virtual space of interaction through digital tools). All of this is provided by young people supported by a background web of organisations, networks and institutions who together form the **Providers-for-Humans**.*

The Urban Youth Circle will be delivered through a set of STREAMS (Key Initiatives) which will also enable an innovation process regarding some of the key issues we consider relevant from the point of view of sustainability.

Streams

From Trantor to Terminus - (Re)Connect Identity – Happy – Gaia - Urban Futurx – Mobile – Notifications – Mequal – CitizenY - Kids Circle – 2050

Support Actions for Streams

Circle Game - Circle Space - Circle Academy - Circle Innovation - Circle Joy Factory - Circle Responsibility - European Circle

THE URBAN YOUNG CITIZEN FORUM

Our programme aims to deliver an original direct democracy platform through which young people of the city can openly participate in decision-making on topics of concern for the city and for young people of the city. It will enable an innovative form of local youth citizenship. Baia Mare 2022 will be the testing ground for this concept which aims to be one of the key outputs of the programme.

THE FUTURE (from the Letter of Bea, dated 2030)

“Last, but not least, let me tell you about the Urban Youth Circle. Baia Mare is the city of dreams come true and an inspiration for each and every young person that paid a visit to it. Just imagine a lot of teens from all around Europe, and why not Terra, different and unique in their own way, discussing ideas and developing together. Every project that starts now in Baia Mare doesn’t only respond to local or national needs, but to the needs of everyone.

You once had a dream and set a goal: you want to start a youth centred literary movement that promotes balance and truth along with returning to reading as a pleasant activity, not a must do for school. Baia Mare has created the context for you to do this. You met all the people you needed and shared your ideas and principles with many people. You wanted to make a change, here I am, at 30, making the change you want to make in 2018. Keep on going, we will succeed!”