



GREATER NICOSIA 2021

EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL

CANDIDATE CITY

#GetTheEdge

Nicosia lies at the edge of three continents – a unique geographic location. It is a place with multiple edges, real and virtual: the dividing Green Line and the division itself, the medieval city walls and bastions, its peripheral edge where the universities lie. (Find out more on the **Edge**, our main concept, here: greaternicosia2021.eu/edge)

Edges are places where diverse perspectives, aesthetics, mindsets and ideologies can meet, overlap, challenge and enrich one another. Multi-communal, diverse, divided, with thick scars from conflict, Nicosia can benefit greatly from a EYC year: the unexplored potential of youth from both sides of the island, the rest of Europe, the Middle East and the Mediterranean region can be tapped into and produce tremendous positive impact, and even offer an extraordinary legacy: **a renewed hope for peace.**

We intend to activate Nicosia's edges as sources of inspiration and empowerment. Nicosia will be transformed into an inviting **trans-continental platform** where young people from three continents can meet, collaborate, co-create, question and experiment, work hard, gain skills and have fun.



Three Municipalities, those of Aglantzia, Nicosia and Strovolos, the Youth Board of Cyprus, the Cyprus Youth Council, many youth groups, Civil Society Organisations and individuals from both sides of the city, the University of Cyprus, the University of Nicosia, government agencies, the Cyprus Tourism Organisation, industry leaders such as PwC Cyprus, CYTA and Telia & Pavla BBDO, are all **joining forces** to claim the European Youth Capital 2021 title for the greater urban area of Nicosia.

We created **the name Greater Nicosia** to signify our aspiration toward a singular, united, more inclusive city. Our logo, chosen through an open competition and Facebook voting, represents just that: playful, colourful, diverse 'tiles' coming together to create a singular whole: Greater Nicosia.

NOTHING FOR YOUTH WITHOUT THE YOUTH

Hundreds of young people across the city and across the divide are helping co-create Greater Nicosia's bid. Through surveys, focus groups, interviews, Edge workshops, public events, presentations, university visits and hundreds of meetings with youth stakeholders and Civil Society Organisations, young people are **having their say** about the city's challenges and ways to overcome them.

Together, we are creating a flexible, sustainable, accessible and inclusive program building on smart, forward-looking ideas, which connect youth across continents and **build bridges across difference**.

- How can we **overcome divisions** in a city where our roads end in roadblocks but our sewers flow freely?
- How can we **empower** other young people to participate in public life, voice their opinion, and go out and vote?
- How different is **island youth culture** to that of continental Europe?
- How can we create opportunities for young people to participate in **decision-making**?
- How can we create the conditions for **economic freedom**, where young people have the skills necessary to find work or start their own business?
- How can we be responsible towards our **community** and our **natural environment**?
- How can we change how the city looks, how we **live** and **have fun** in it?

These questions are only the beginning. Be part of the discussion, help us find out! So:

Come to the Edge, Get the Edge!

Brief summary:

Nicosia, Cyprus: a unique location, with multiple real and virtual edges.

Many stakeholders are joining forces to bring the EYC 2021 title to Greater Nicosia. Hundreds of young people across the dividing Green Line of the "world's last divided capital" are co-creating an exciting, innovative, inclusive program, finding ways to turn the city's challenges into opportunities. Join us!
#GetTheEdge

Find out more:
www.greaternicosia2021.eu

www.facebook.com/GreaterNicosia2021

www.twitter.com/GreaterNicosia



#GetTheEdge