

"Good innovation is like lifting up the horizon and looking through to see the future."

## About European Young Innovators Forum (EYIF)



The European Young Innovators Forum, EYIF, launched at a joint European Parliament, European Commission and Council of Europe event in 2010 at the European Parliament, is an independent, non-profit, pan-European, bottom-up association whose mission is to change the mindset for innovation in Europe by encouraging Young Europeans to take more risks for innovation and entrepreneurship and equally, encouraging governments, businesses, society and individuals to support and reward such risk-taking, empowering young innovators to play a transformative role in Europe's future.

EYIF has rapidly become the leading foundation for youth innovation in Europe reaching in excess of 400,000 participants across all EU member states, giving voice to a community of young innovators and experts who believe in taking risks, changing mindsets for innovation and the value of shared ideas and professional mentorship. The EYIF ecosystem includes successful globally-recognised innovators and entrepreneurs, investors, business and corporate personalities, academic and industrial experts, opinion leaders and leading European policy and decision makers.

Headquartered in Brussels, EYIF consults and cooperates regularly with the European Parliament, European Commission, United States State Department, World Economic Forum, European Investment Fund, and other institutions like the OECD. EYIF is part of various high-level expert and stakeholder groups created by the European Commission to formulate Web Entrepreneurship, Digital Entrepreneurship, Horizon2020 and Open Innovation policies. In 2013, EYIF designed and worked with the European Parliament to enact the Innovation Voucher scheme as part of the €70 Billion Horizon2020 programme.

EYIF undertakes a range of activities designed to create and sustain a spirit and culture of innovation and entrepreneurship for young Europeans. These activities provide young Europeans with innovative ideas and early-stage projects with access to those who can inspire, guide, and support them as well as improve access to finance, resources, tool and facilities for

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successful development of their ideas and projects into innovative companies, products and services, enhancing the participation of young European citizen innovators in the European economy, which is crucial for the future of Europe.

EYIF is a core partner of the World Economic Forum's European Entrepreneurship initiative. The objective of this project is to promote long-term growth and job creation in Europe by significantly improving the conditions for innovation-driven entrepreneurship, creating an immediate and sustainable impact. The project aims to achieve this by connecting key leaders in Europe's entrepreneurial communities in order to build a unified European community of entrepreneurship leaders. EYIF is co-leading the main Work-Package of the project – "Promotion of Entrepreneurship".

EYIF's Board of Advisers encompasses leading Members of the European Parliament active in innovation policy including notably, its Vice-President, Alexander Alvaro and leaders of Fortune 100 and 500 companies and other corporations that are global innovation market leaders, the European Investment Bank's dedicated European Investment Fund (EIF), and partners of major seed and venture capital firms.

## About Kumardev Chatterjee

KUMARDEV CHATTERJEE, Founder and President of the European Young Innovators Forum

Kumardev, a young innovator, entrepreneurial youth innovation leader, experienced ICT industry professional, European Commission appointed Expert and Eureka appointed High-Level Technical Expert, founded the European Young Innovators Forum in 2010 in Brussels with the joint support of the European Parliament, Commission and Council. Kumardev has 15+ years of international experience in the innovation, entrepreneurship and ICT space (EU, US, UK, China, India), in both public, private and non-profit sectors, where he has been engaged from the age of 19 when he set up his first for-profit company (he started his first social business at the age of 14). In his role of Founder and President of the European Young Innovators Forum, Kumardev is responsible for the management of EYIF's key stakeholder relationships with the European Commission, US State Department, Fortune 100 Chairpersons and CEOs, and large European and International organisations like the World Economic Forum, European Investment Fund and other strategic partners. He represents EYIF on various Expert Groups and Stakeholder Committees of the European Commission in the areas of Innovation, Entrepreneurship and ICT. He leads the management of EYIF's broad community of young innovators, entrepreneurs, startups and SMEs and led Europe's first-ever delegation of Young Innovators on a joint US State Department-EYIF program, the InnotourUSA. Kumardev holds a MSc. in Computer Science from University College London (UCL) where he studied as a British Chevening Science Scholar.