



Event: “Youth Climate Awareness and Leadership Programme”
Peer Parliament Archanes | Sunday 24 November 2024
City of Archanes, Crete

Peer Parliament: Planning for Climate Action and Youth-Led Climate Discussions
Sunday, 24 November 2024 – City of Archanes
Location: The Model Climate House of Christos Christodoulopoulos and Eve Michelaki

DESCRIPTION

The **Peer Parliament** is an interactive and youth-centred forum that engages young people 18-30 years old in meaningful discussions about climate action and environmental responsibility. It will be held in **Archanes, Crete**, on **Sunday, 24 November 2024**. The event will empower young voices to express their perspectives on climate change, collaborate on solutions, and take action for environmental issues affecting their communities.

Participants will be guided through structured discussions and interactive elements, fostering peer-to-peer learning and leadership. They will explore climate challenges, devise actionable solutions, and develop plans to implement environmental changes in their local communities and in their daily lives. This initiative is part of a wider effort to strengthen youth leadership on climate action and sustainability.

OBJECTIVES

- To give young people a platform to express their views on climate change and its impact on their local environment.
- To foster critical thinking and collaborative problem-solving skills in the context of climate action.
- To promote youth leadership and empower students to take ownership of environmental initiatives.
- To encourage practical discussions on how local communities in Crete can contribute to climate resilience.

PEER PARLIAMENT FACILITATORS

Alice Corovessi, Head of EU Climate Pact CC in Greece

Yiannis Anastasakis, Civil Engineer, Deputy Governor for Climate Change and Sustainable Mobility for the Region of Crete

Georgia Mouriadou, Production & Manager Engineer, Team Member of EU Climate Pact CC in Greece

INTERACTIVE ELEMENTS

- **Welcome and tour of the Climate Model House (25 minutes)**

The event will start with a very interesting tour, by the owners Christos Christodoulopoulos and Eve Michelakis, of the fully energy and water self-sufficient house we will be visiting. We will learn how sustainable architecture can help reduce the environmental footprint and how such practices can be implemented in our daily lives.

In detail, more information will be provided for:

- The design of Model Climate Houses to achieve zero impact on the planet
- Energy autonomy using renewable energy sources
- Water management and conservation through innovative systems
- Waste recycling and circular economy applications
- Underfloor heating
- Regenerative agriculture techniques

- **Peer-Led Roundtable Discussions (45 minutes)**



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Young people will be divided into small groups, each led by a person from the group that will be selected as a moderator. These roundtable discussions will focus on two key themes:

- **The impact of climate change on Crete’s ecosystems and communities:** Young people will explore how climate change affects local water resources, agriculture, biodiversity, and tourism.
- **Youth solutions for climate action:** Young people will brainstorm practical ways to contribute to climate action in their local communities, including water conservation, reducing waste, and promoting clean energy.

Moderators will guide their peers through the discussions, ensuring that everyone has an opportunity to contribute.

- **Peer Parliament Debate (45 minutes)**

Following the roundtable discussions, young people will participate in a structured **Peer Parliament** session to present their ideas and debate potential climate action strategies. Each group will nominate one or two representatives to present their group’s findings, followed by a debate where students discuss which solutions they believe will be most effective. The debate will centre on key questions:

- How can young people influence their families and communities to take action against climate change?
- What role can digital tools and social media play in raising awareness and promoting climate action among young people?
- How can young citizens collaborate with local authorities or organisations to implement long-term environmental initiatives in their communities?

- **Action Planning Workshop (35 minutes)**

After the debate, young people will work together to create a detailed action plan for climate initiatives they would like to implement. This could involve organising recycling programmes in their communities, participating in local environmental clean-ups, or engaging in community advocacy campaigns for water and energy conservation.

Facilitators will provide guidance to ensure that participants can develop clear, realistic plans that they can take back to their communities.

- **Conclusion and Reflection (15 minutes)**

To close the event, young people will gather to reflect on the day's discussions and share their personal takeaways. Each participant will be encouraged to make a personal commitment to take action toward fighting climate change in their daily lives. The event will conclude with a summary of key solutions proposed during the Peer Parliament.

BENEFITS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

- The Peer Parliament will give young people a voice and encourage them to become community leaders. Through discussions and by developing climate action plans, they will gain leadership and organisational skills that will benefit them in future endeavours.
- They will learn about Crete's specific environmental challenges, such as water scarcity, agricultural shifts, and the preservation of local biodiversity. Through these discussions, they will gain a deeper understanding of the real-world impacts of climate change.
- By working together in roundtable discussions and debates, they will practice collaborative problem-solving. They will learn to listen to others’ ideas, build on them, and engage in constructive debate, enhancing their critical thinking and communication skills.



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- One of the Peer Parliament's main outcomes is creating actionable action plans so that the young participants can return to their communities. These practical solutions will allow them to see the impact of their discussions and provide them with concrete steps to make a difference.
- The Peer Parliament will foster a sense of ownership and responsibility among the participants, as they work toward making tangible changes in their immediate environments. By focusing on youth-led initiatives, they will feel empowered to act as catalysts for environmental sustainability in their local areas.

Organised by the Country Coordinator in Greece INZEB, in collaboration with the Region of Crete



**ΠΕΡΙΦΕΡΕΙΑ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
REGION OF CRETE**

TAKE INDIVIDUAL ACTION

Join over 500,000 participants and keep track of your climate action so you can help create a greener, more prosperous future for all!

The European Climate Pact has joined forces with ACT NOW, the United Nations campaign to inspire people to act on climate change and sustainability, and AWorld, the mobile app supporting citizens to take individual action.

Anyone can use the AWorld app to reduce their carbon footprint through daily activities and take measurable steps towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

