

MEET UP! Youth for Partnership goes DIGITAL

In 2020, most international exchange projects had to be adapted to new, digital working methods. The following examples show how these projects are designed and what they are capable of achieving.

Selected digital and hybrid projects



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Бах єднає! Bach verbindet! (Bach connects!)

A project organized by OPEN OPERA UKRAINE & HMDK Stuttgart. This German-Ukrainian project was a bona fide musical experiment. Despite border closures, German and Ukrainian students and musicians succeeded in meeting each other and trying out new forms of musical collaboration and online coaching. But first and foremost, they played Baroque music composed by Bach, with the high point coming in a concert that was broadcast live around the world: [Link](#)

Cherson & Magdeburg: overcoming urban challenges

Could the cities of Cherson and Magdeburg gain a better understanding of each other and come closer together? Despite the pandemic? How would it work? Young German and Ukrainian TV journalists found out by taking an up-close look at the two cities, both of which have been shaped to a significant extent by socialism and their industrial past and are now in a state of transition. The journalists created a TV series on aspects relating to city development. They presented their cities to each other and motivated young people to inject new life into open spaces with contemporary offers.

To view the programs: [KhersonPlus](#) and [Offener Kanal Magdeburg](#).

Gegen das Vergessen! (Never forget!) Music and video production about Selma Meerbaum-Eisinger

A German-Ukrainian music and video production about young poet Selma Meerbaum-Eisinger was created using a hybrid approach. Those working on the project learned about her life and produced a video. Selma Meerbaum-Eisinger was born in Chernivtsi in 1924. She was 15 years old when she began to write poetry, and her work qualifies as world literature today. She died in Mychailivka labor camp in 1942. **Get a glimpse of the project [here](#).**

German-Ukrainian online residence for performance "Crossing"

This hybrid German-Ukrainian residency showed how performances were staged in over 15 German and Ukrainian cities and how interaction and dialog are still possible during the pandemic, even when there are communication barriers. The artists performed in real-world urban locations. Recordings of the performances posted on social media networks prompted discussions about accepting otherness, the concept of democracy, non-discrimination, human rights, and respect for human dignity. A digital catalog was created to offer insights into the project and a blueprint for further initiatives:

[Link](#)



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German-Ukrainian language workshop

The annual German-Ukrainian language workshop took place despite the pandemic – but was held in the digital environment rather than the Transcarpathian region as planned. The workshop included language lessons, tandem meetings, an evening cooking event, and short videos offering a glimpse into the other participants' lives. New language materials were also created, this year consisting of a collection of stories and poems for reading and learning.

"Die Sprache soll leben | Мова має жити" (Language should live): [PDF](#)

Back to Back: Back Youth to Backyard

Young city planners, architects, and artists from Germany and Ukraine explored the transformation of public spaces – from a theoretical perspective, through their own research in the field, and by taking virtual excursions. Following a series of digital exchanges and workshops, the participants redesigned the courtyard of a youth center in the Ukrainian city of Chernihiv. A selection of workshop and field analysis videos as well as a practical [project handbook](#) were made available to the professional community and anyone interested as learning and discussion materials with the goal of inspiring ongoing discussion and further initiatives in both countries.

Youth to Backyard: [Odessa](#) / Youth to Backyard: [Slavutych](#)

See [here](#) for even more of the project's activities.



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