

# YOUTH AT THE TOP and CARPATHIAN DAY

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 Federal Ministry Republic of Austria Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology

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Youth at the top in Piatra Craiului National Park 2016

# **YOUTH AT THE TOP**

YOUTH AT THE TOP is an international project which mobilizes groups of young people at a common annual date, in different protected areas throughout the Alps and Carpathians.

It was launched in 2015 by ALPARC-The Alpine Network of Protected Areas and from 2016 through CNPA, the Carpathian Protected Areas were invited to take part in this initiative.



Since 2016, Piatra Craiului National Park Administration participates every year in the YAT initiative.



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After registration, the protected areas/organizations can apply for financial support, based on their network membership, Alparc or CNPA members.

This year, each Alpine and Carpathian park will receive a certain amount of money (500 € for Alparc members and 200 € for CNPA members). ALPARC is responsible for the general management and international communication of the project. Ever since the "Youth at the top" project was launched, protected areas and different organizations from the Alps and Carpathians are invited every Spring to register, in order to participate in the event.





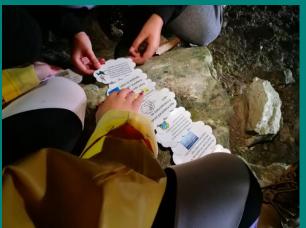




YAT 2019







Every year the YAT event had a thematic. Here are a few examples:

- climate change and its effects on mountain ecosystems;
- myth and mountain legends;
- alpine fauna and climate change;
- local food;
- water in all its forms;
- forest the almighty.

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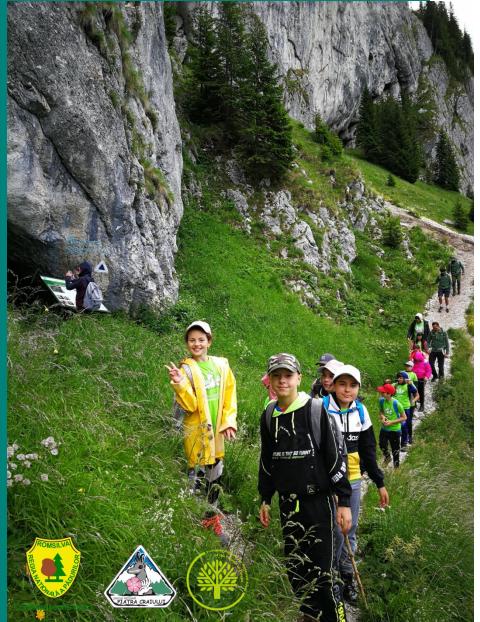
YAT 2021



YAT 2023

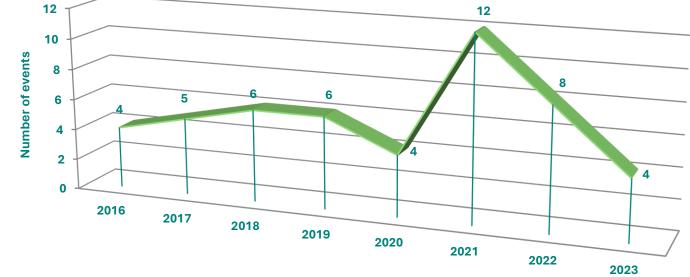


YAT 2022



Youth at the top in Piatra Craiului National Park 2022

# Youth at the top numbers in the Carpathians



Years



Year	Country	PA no.
2016	Romania	2
	Slovakia	2
2017	Romania	2
	Slovakia	2
	Poland	1
2018	Romania	2
	Slovakia	3
	Poland	1
2019	Romania	3
	Slovakia	3
2020	Romania	2
	Slovakia	2
2021	Romania	7
	Slovakia	4
	Poland	1
2022	Romania	6
	Slovakia	2
2023	Romania	2
	Slovakia	2



## **YOUTH AT THE TOP 2024**

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For the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of YAT, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of July, PAs from 8 Countries have registered!

The common theme is: "Alpine flowers and pollinator insects".

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2<sup>nd</sup> ESD seminar, Zakopane, Poland

### **CARPATHIAN DAY**

With the occasion of the second ESD Seminar organised in 2022, in Zakopane, Poland, Romanian representatives in education brought into the attention of the participants the fact that in Romania the Carpathian Day is celebrated on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September.

As a consequence, the seminar participants proposed establishing a Carpathian Day which would be celebrated by Carpathian parks and organisations, in order to promote the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians and the objectives of the Carpathian Convention.

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The idea received positive feedback at the 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention (COP7), organised in Belgrade, Serbia, between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2023, where they welcomed the concept of establishing the **Carpathian Day.** 

#### COP7, Belgrade, Serbia



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Up until now, the Carpathian Convention Secretariat organised several consultation meetings concerning this proposal and presented the developments.



On the website of the Carpathian Convention a special section was created which gives the possibility for Carpathian parks and different organizations to register their planned events.

#### **Carpathian Day**

#### This years thematic is "Our identity lies in our heritage"

Celebrate the Carpathians through Carpathian Day on or around 26 September! This is a yearly celebration of our diverse and common identities, landscapes, heritage and love for the Carpathian region.



#### Carpathian Day in Piatra Craiului and Retezat National Parks in 2023

Two thematic field activities were organised in Piatra Craiului NP, on the 26<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup> of September. During these thematic field trips the pupils were able to learn about the Carpathians, the importance of their protection and why this has to be a common effort.

A series of engaging activities were organised by Retezat NP in cooperation with local authorities and NGOs, on the 26<sup>th</sup>, like hiking and educational events at the Visitor Center.





Carpathian Day in Piatra Craiului NP





#### Carpathian Day in Retezat NP



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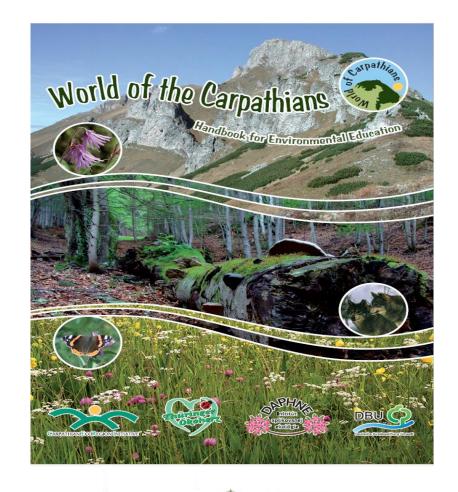








Indoor educational activities concerning the Carpathians in 2022, using different tools:

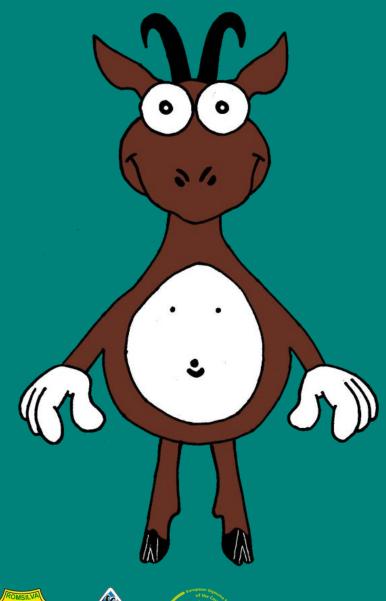


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## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**



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