



MEDIA RELEASE

Maydan Association calls on Euro-Med youth to creatively express “Solidarity Without Borders”: Second edition of “Floating Voices” Creative Arts Contest officially launched!

Reggio Calabria, 30 October 2020: In light of the global challenges we are facing, particularly the Covid-19 pandemic, and the effect it is having on democracy, freedom of movement, borders, solidarity and citizenship, as well as the difficulties related to preserving real facts from fake representations, [Maydan](#) is providing a creative space for youth from across the Euro-Mediterranean region in this historic moment.

Maydan, an association of citizens, women and men, including activists, intellectuals, artists, entrepreneurs, researchers and others, engaged in the construction of a Mediterranean citizenship and a common destiny among the peoples of the region, is pleased to launch the second edition of the [Floating Voices](#) multilingual Creative Arts Contest.

Calling on young creative writers, poets, graphic novelists and photographers, aged 16 to 30, to tell their stories about **SOLIDARITY WITHOUT BORDERS**, the initiative aims to promote knowledge of the socio-political, cultural and economic complexities of the Mediterranean and neighbouring countries, particularly in this pandemic era, and to strengthen relationships and share dreams among young citizens on both shores of the Mediterranean and beyond.

Contest deadline is **5 December 2020** for submission of original works that will be selected by a panel of jurists from both Mediterranean shores. Winners will be announced on **28 December 2020**.

Covid-permitting, they will participate in an awards ceremony in spring 2021 in Reggio Calabria, Italy: a Mediterranean crossroads, home of Maydan Association and host of two editions of [SabirFest](#), celebrating Mediterranean culture and citizenship. Partner in the ceremony will be [Progetto Mediterranea](#), an association of activists with a passion for the Mediterranean and creator of the Mediterranean Flag, which will be raised for the first time in Reggio Calabria during the event.

See the Maydan [website](#) for more details and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

*“We’ve learned that if we connect with one another on the human level,
if we look beyond the stereotypes and populist frames in politics and media,
there is the empathy and solidarity which is so much needed in times of crisis.
For this, we need human stories; we need narratives about who we are,
what we share and how our common destiny will look like.
Not just in our local neighbourhoods, but on a global level as well.”*
(Mark Snijder, writer, editor, researcher & Maydan member – from Maydan’s [“Pandemic Stories”](#).)

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