Event description sheet

Actual event report — one event = one work package. Prepared on the Greenlink template.

PROJECT

PARTICIPANT	ACLI
PIC NUMBER	101249789
PROJECT NAME AND ACRONYM	GREENLINK

DESCRIPTION

EVENT NUMBER	1
EVENT NAME	International Olympic Youth for Peace Forum 2026
TYPE	Multi-sequence public event linked to the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic period: symbolic ceremony, civic meeting, cultural concert, final plenary and closing
INSITU / ONLINE	Insitu
LOCATION	Como (Auditorium Gallio, Sala degli Stemmi, Basilica di Sant'Abbondio, Teatro Sociale); Olympic Flame route Cernobbio – Como — Lombardy, Italy
DATE	3, 4 and 5 February 2026
WEBSITE (IF ANY)	www.aclimilano.it
DIRECT LINK	https://service-civique-europeen.com/news/international-youth-peace-forum/?lang=en
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	329

Funding note. *The Forum is an initiative part of the Gen26 Education Programme of Milano Cortina 2026, which co-funds the wider thematic programme. This report covers the meetings and sequences supported by the GREENLINK project (CERV), listed on page 3.*

1. General concept

The International Olympic Youth for Peace Forum is a joint initiative created for the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Games by the Collectif pour un Service Civique Européen. Its second edition took place in Como from 3 to 5 February 2026, at the opening of the Olympic period — traditionally a time of peace and international truce.

The concept is simple: peace is not a dream, it is something young people can build together. Inspired by Olympic values of respect, friendship and excellence, the Forum links the symbolism of the Games with the work of European and international youth on conflict prevention, inequality, climate, human rights and civic engagement.

The three days were designed as one chain of sequences, each with a distinct role:

i

The Flame — a symbol for a wide public

The Olympic Flame, welcomed in Como on 3 February, turns the Olympic Truce into a shared street-level moment that reaches citizens far beyond the Forum's own participants.

ii

The Concert — bringing people together

On 4 February, a concert of music for peace and liberty in a Romanesque basilica gathers delegates, guests and the people of Como — preceded by a civic meeting with the Mayor and his team.

iii

The Final — from words to concrete action

On 5 February, young people present the synthesis of their ten working groups at the Teatro Sociale: recommendations and projects designed to be carried into our other projects.

A DIRECT LEGACY IN OUR PROJECTS

- **From the first edition (Paris 2024):** 300+ young people, 50+ recommendations and 12 concrete projects, including the idea of a green European civic service and recognition of climate-refugee status.
- **From this second edition:** ten sets of youth proposals (annex). One of them — the **European Peace Walk** proposed in the sport workshop — has since given rise to a **new CERV project proposal on Peace Walks**.

Funding context. The Forum's wider thematic programme (working groups, screenings, institutional roundtables) is co-funded by the Gen26 Education Programme of Milano Cortina 2026. GREENLINK (CERV) supports the sequences and meetings reported here, which carry the civic, cultural and symbolic dimension of the action.

2. Sequences at a glance

Reporting by day — a chain of sequences from symbol to action

Day	CERV sequence	Place	Audience
DAY 1 **3 Feb**	**Olympic Flame & Peace Flags** Opening ceremony and presentation of the Peace Flags (Auditorium Gallio), then the Olympic Flame procession from Cernobbio to Como.	Auditorium Gallio; streets of Cernobbio and Como	Wide public, citizens, students, institutions
DAY 2 **4 Feb**	**Meeting with the City of Como** Exchange between the Mayor of Como, his team and the Forum participants.	Como	Municipality, delegates, guests
	Concert for Peace Music of eight traditions devoted to peace and liberty, introduced by African institutional guests.	Basilica di Sant'Abbondio	Delegates and local public
DAY 3 **5 Feb**	**Final synthesis & closing ceremony** Interventions, presentation and vote of the youth proposals, official reading of recommendations to a jury, gala buffet.	Teatro Sociale di Como	Delegates, institutions, experts, jury

CONTEXT PROGRAMME (GEN26 CO-FUNDED, NOT CLAIMED HERE)

- Day 1 — institutional speeches, roundtable “Torchbearers of Peace”, presentation of the ten working groups, screening of “Voices of Solidarity”.
- Day 2 — the ten working groups, hosted at Villa Carlotta, Villa del Grumello and the Sala degli Stemmi; screening of “Le Projet” at Cinema Astra.
- Day 3 — plenary discussion and vote that frame the final synthesis.

Why this chain? The Flame opens the Forum to the public and anchors it in the Olympic Truce; the meeting with the City and the Concert build the relationship between participants, institutions and the local community; the final turns three days of exchange into proposals that feed our next projects.

3. Metrics

Key figures of the action

Figures below come from the programme, the organisation records and the final actual-presence listing of the Forum.

CONFIRMED

Duration	3 days (3–5 February 2026)
Sequences reported	4 (Flame & Peace Flags · City meeting · Concert · Final)
Venues used in Como area	7 (Auditorium Gallio, Villa Carlotta, Villa del Grumello, Sala degli Stemmi, Cinema Astra, Basilica di Sant'Abbondio, Teatro Sociale)
Thematic working groups	10, each led by recognised experts
Youth proposals presented on Day 3	10 sets of proposals (see annex)
Peace Flags designed	3, by Class 5E of the Liceo Artistico Fausto Melotti (Cantù)
Official Torchbearer	1 — Marinella Linati, for the Collectif pour un Service Civique Européen
Follow-up	New CERV project proposal: Peace Walks

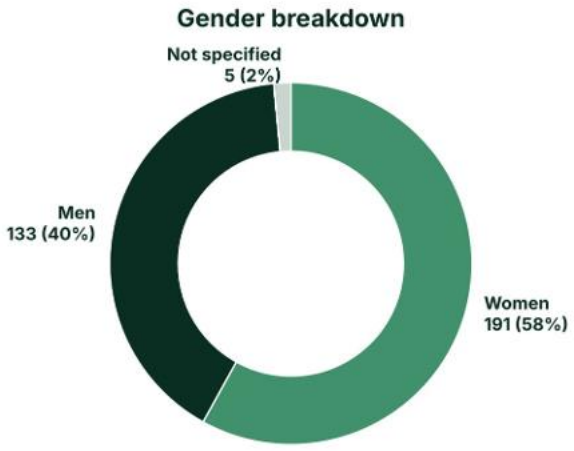
ATTENDANCE — ACTUAL PRESENCE LISTING

Total people present (all sequences)	329 unique people (331 listing lines; 2 people hold two roles)
Youth participants (incl. Spanish delegation of 10)	150
Experts and working-group facilitators	25
Staff and organisers (incl. delegation staff)	26
ACLI team	18
KA2 project partners	8
VIP and institutional guests	29
Municipality and officials	17
Artists	8
Concert audience (public)	45
Other / role not specified	3
Nationalities represented	26 countries

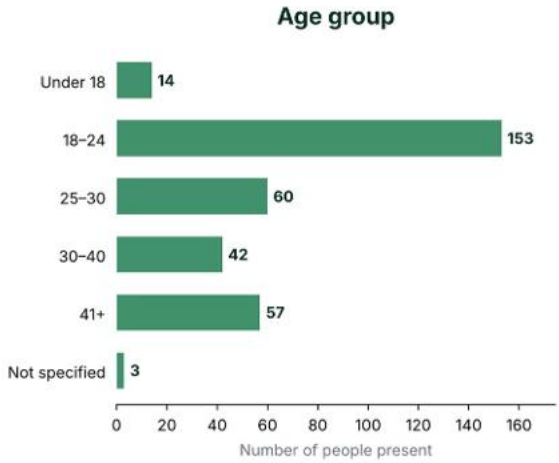
Attendance breakdown

Final actual-presence listing — 329 unique people

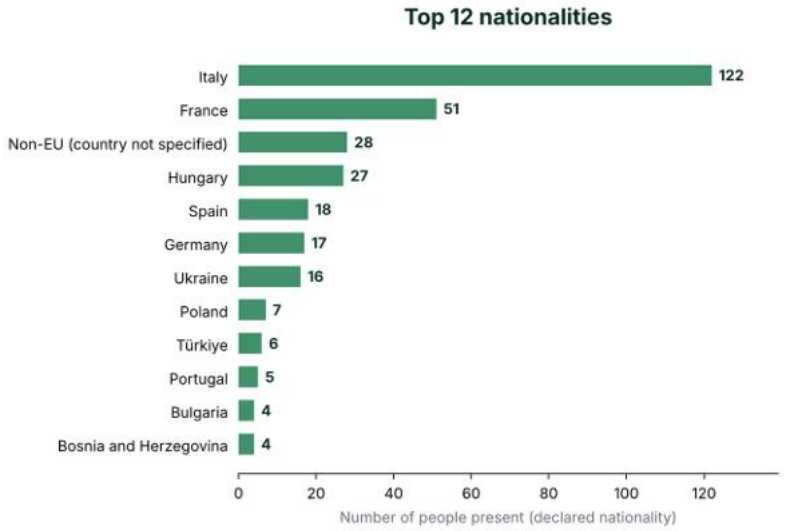
Charts are based on the consolidated actual-presence listing: every person present across the sequences is counted once, and each chart adds up to the same total of 329. Age groups and nationality are as recorded in the listing; nationalities were harmonised (e.g. "Italien", "Italian" and "Italie" grouped as Italy).



Gender — 329 people present (191 women, 133 men, 5 not specified)



Age group — 329 people present (3 not specified)



Top 12 nationalities among the 329 people present, across 26 countries; "Non-EU" groups people whose country was not detailed in the listing.

4. Sequence by sequence

DAY 1 · 3 February — The Olympic Flame & the Peace Flags

The Forum opened at the Auditorium Gallio with addresses by the Collectif's founder and Italy director, the Mayor of Como, Cardinal Oscar Cantoni, the Education & Culture Director of the Milano Cortina Foundation and a letter from the EU Commission's regional representation. The first day closed on two symbolic moments aimed at a wide public.

PEACE FLAGS

Students of Class 5E (Fashion Lab) of the Liceo Artistico Fausto Melotti in Cantù designed three flags expressing the values of sport, peace and unity, presented on stage to close the first day. The winning design, “Towards Peace”, shows a young girl carrying the Olympic torch above the symbols of war; the flags will be displayed in iconic places across Como.

THE OLYMPIC FLAME IN COMO

That evening the Olympic Flame travelled from Cernobbio to Como. Marinella Linati, Director for Italy of the Collectif and co-organiser of the Forum, took part as an Official Torchbearer of the Olympic Truce within the Milano Cortina Foundation programme — the only French organisation invited — dedicating the flame to the young participants and to children and youth affected by war and injustice.



Handover of the Olympic Flame between torchbearers, Como, 3 February.



The torch procession through the illuminated streets of Como.



Torchbearer greeting the crowd along the route.



Presentation of the Peace Flags on stage, Auditorium Gallio.



Peace Flags carried among students and public in the evening.



Opening day at the Auditorium Gallio: speakers and an audience of young delegates.

DAY 2 · 4 February — The City of Como, and the Concert for Peace

MEETING WITH THE MAYOR OF COMO AND HIS TEAM

In the spirit of the CERV programme — citizens, institutions and cultural exchange — the Forum was received by the Mayor of Como, Alessandro Rapinese, and his team, together with the participants. The organisers thanked the Municipality for its hospitality, support and engagement, and expressed the hope that this cooperation will be the start of a lasting relationship and of future collaborations.



Mayor of Como, his team and Forum participants.



Symbolic exchange of gifts during the meeting.

CONCERT FOR PEACE — BASILICA DI SANT'ABBONDIO

In the evening, the Romanesque Basilica of Sant'Abbondio hosted a concert of Italian, French, Polish, Arabic, Hebrew, Ukrainian, Slavic and South American music devoted to peace and liberty. H.E. Arrada Izzedine Fouda (President of the Women's Committee of the African Union) and H.E. Epaneite Djangrang Send (Vice-President of the National Parliament of Chad) introduced the evening. Musicians from many backgrounds showed that culture builds bridges where words sometimes fail.



The nave of the Basilica during the Concert for Peace.



Piano and violins in front of the medieval frescoes.



Violinists and pianist performing together.



Solo piano before the apse.



Delegates, guests and residents of Como in the audience.



The performing artists at the end of the concert.

DAY 3 · 5 February — Final synthesis and closing ceremony

The final day took place at the historic Teatro Sociale di Como, welcomed by its director, Barbara Minghetti. After interventions on “Crafting peace through education and culture”, a first presentation of the draft proposals and a panel on Africa–Italy–European Union cooperation, the young participants held a final plenary discussion and voted on the recommendations and projects to present.

The closing ceremony then gave the floor to the youth: the agreed recommendations were officially read and discussed before a jury of institutional, cultural and civil-society figures, including the Forum's founder and director, the Hippocrène Foundation, Europe Direct Nice Métropole, the Polish Institute of National Remembrance, US ACLI and Cardinal Oscar Cantoni. The three days ended with a gala buffet. No longer just ideas: real projects ready to be implemented.



The Teatro Sociale di Como during the final session.



Delegates and guests following the presentations.



Volunteers and organisers in the Forum T-shirts (project visibility).

FROM THE FINAL TO OUR NEXT PROJECTS

- Ten sets of recommendations and proposals, detailed in the annex, are the Forum's concrete output.
- The **European Peace Walk** proposal has become the basis of a new CERV project proposal on Peace Walks.
- Other proposals (youth civic engagement platform, Youth4Peace programme, media-literacy tools) are candidates to be woven into our other projects.

Annex — Detailed outputs of the Forum

The ten sets of youth proposals presented and voted on Day 3

WORKSHOP 1 — Economic inequalities and global conflicts

Experts: *V. Ostojic (Club Alpbach Montenegro), H. Titeca (Charlemagne Youth Prize)*

- **PIPSE** — a youth-led campaign for equal opportunities: social-media awareness with an annual recognition, a global youth-connection network (volunteering, internships, education, jobs) and an administrative and health guide for young people in mobility.

WORKSHOP 2 — Education for conflict prevention and peace

Experts: *J. de Lucas (Arrabal Aid Málaga), F. Piparelli (Charlemagne Youth Prize)*

- **Escape rooms for societal debate** — safe facilitated dialogue, active listening and conflict analysis, feeding youth-led initiatives and policy.
- **Peace Bee** — local youth clubs, training and a digital platform with skills recognition, turning young people into peace ambassadors.

WORKSHOP 3 — Climate emergency, conflict and migration

Experts: *C. Zaffino (The Future We Need), A. Németh (European Parliament / Charlemagne Youth Prize)*

- **Interactive Climigration** — an immersive VR game for 13–20 year-olds simulating climate-related migration.
- **European Citizens' Initiative** — collect one million signatures by end-2026 for a protection status for climate-displaced persons.

WORKSHOP 4 — International law, human rights and sustainable development

Experts: *A. Yangulbaev (human rights lawyer), S. Gavazzi (Maastricht University)*

- **Open letter to EU institutions** proposing an EU fund of €500 million over three years for community-led human rights education.
- **European migration policy** based on human rights, with clear legal pathways and consistency across Member States.

WORKSHOP 5 — Women, minorities and groups exposed to discrimination

Experts: *A. Zlatar (artist, Charlemagne Youth Prize), A. Apostolidis (European Movement)*

- **YouTube channel** for the stories of first- and second-generation migrants.
- **Art campaign** on reproductive rights and bodily autonomy.
- **Interview spaces** in conflict and post-conflict contexts, supporting memory and transitional justice.

WORKSHOP 6 — Social media, fake news and online political violence

Experts: *T. Atanassova (Czar Training), S. Campanari (Scambi Europei), L. Pavanello (KPMG Advisory), M. Angeleri (20e30)*

- **Fake News Fighters** — peer-to-peer training in detecting fakes, manipulation and online radicalisation.
- **AI-based fact-checking app** (building on DeFacto) to verify content and support media-literacy teaching.

WORKSHOP 7 — Youth civic engagement

Experts: *F. Fimbel (activist), L. Zotta (researcher), F. Brancaccio (Giovani delle ACLI)*

- **Platform for youth ideas** — open calls, links to municipalities, NGOs and institutions, mentoring and funding, for 10–18 year-olds.
- **Youth4Peace** — blended training, volunteering and funded peace projects for young people from conflict-affected or disadvantaged regions.

WORKSHOP 8 — Sport as a peace mediator

Experts: *P. Ferreirinha (Europe XXI), M. Merlino (US ACLI)*

- **European Peace Walk** — a five-day, 150 km collective walk (Camino de Santiago, or Aachen to Brussels) with simultaneous marches in other European cities, daily themes of peace, European values, solidarity and youth participation, and the involvement of public figures and athletes.

  → Output taken forward: new CERV project proposal on Peace Walks

WORKSHOP 9 — The human dimension of conflicts

Experts: *C. Locatelli (international journalist), G. Suffia (University of Bologna)*

- **Video archives and live calls** connecting citizens of peaceful countries with people near conflict zones (e.g. Ukraine), building a searchable archive of testimonies for education and research.

WORKSHOP 10 — War in Europe and EU enlargement as a vector for peace

Experts: *A. Kuytov (Minister of Education, Bulgaria)*

- **Ten days of hiking and learning** — young Europeans from ten countries in a survival simulation followed by community engagement, with daily video documentation, to build lasting links with communities and political actors.

THE WORKING GROUPS AT WORK (GEN26 PROGRAMME, CONTEXT)



Working group session



Group discussion



Group work in a historic villa