

## SOME OF THE GOALS OF THE ETSN

- a promote the identification of highly able young people in Europe;
- b provide different types of support to highly able young people beyond what is currently provided in this field;
- c boost research activity in the field of high ability and related areas, as well as help convert findings into practice;
- d extend the current Network members' framework of best practices to the field of high ability both in Europe and internationally;
- e demonstrate that persons involved in the field of high ability have reached a "critical mass" at the European level that needs to be taken into account when discussing EU and national high ability policies throughout Europe;
- f create a community that focuses on the different needs of the highly abled that is not exclusively academic in its outlook;
- g develop a culture that promotes respect and celebrates diversity within this community.

### Youth Platform

The Youth Platform gathers young students and young people (age 14-30) interested in gifted education delegated by Talent Centres and Talent Points. The Youth Summit is an event that they run annually where they have an opportunity to share their concerns and experience about talent support, and to learn and to listen to presentations on the topic.

### OUTLOOK

For the members to experience the benefits of network-based activities, ETSN members had to invest voluntary work into creating a real network instead of considering it a simple administrative framework. In the longer run, networking can offer many, almost unforeseeable, advantages to all concerned:

- it can accelerate the substantive exchange of best practices in talent support;
- increase the number of international research projects,
- ensure more efficient intra-regional resources utilisation and promote creative productivity through the cooperation of talented young persons.

Although the Network is part of the wider, more remote, environment of the talented individual, its goals and activities can create system-level synergies that will impact on the action potentials of individuals through their political, cultural, economic and social macro-systems surroundings. That is: throughout Europe, a growing number of young talents will be provided real attention and support, assistance and an opportunity to develop and experience their talent through the European Talent Support Network.

## WHY BE PART OF THE ETSN?

- By joining it, by your presence alone, you can contribute to making visible on the European Talent Map how many of us are interested in this topic and consider it crucial;
- you are needed to make this visible also in European-level decision-making;
- you will be part of a family where you can meet and establish contacts with similar organisations;
- you can be part of the circulation of professional news via the Network

The Call for Applications to Become a Talent Point and the application forms and relevant selection criteria are permanently available on the ETSN website.

To be a European or an Associated European Talent Point, you can register through the website: <http://etsn.eu/apply-to-join-etsn>

To be a European or an Associated European Talent Centre, please look for our annual Calls on our website: <http://etsn.eu>



### CONTACT PERSONS

**The secretary of ETSN:** [contactetsn@gmail.com](mailto:contactetsn@gmail.com)

### USEFUL LINKS

**Website of the Network:** <http://etsn.eu>

**The website displays the map of the institutions making up the network and the key data of the participating Talent Centres and Talent Points:** <http://etsn.eu/map-of-etsn>

**It issues a newsletter, TalentWeb, to Network members two or three times a year:**

**Please sign up!** <http://etsn.eu/talentweb-newsletter>

**You can read more about the Youth Platform here:** <http://youthplatform.etsn.eu>



European Talent  
Support Network



National  
Talent Programme



# EUROPEAN TALENT SUPPORT NETWORK

international civic organisation founded in 2015

VALUES: enrichment, collaboration, cooperation, diversity, openness

### SHARING AND GIVING

### THE FORMATION OF ETSN

Collective thinking about the European Talent Support Network (ETSN) first started in 2011. The Final Declaration of the Hungarian EU Presidential Conference on Talent Support stressed that it would be worthwhile to align and organise into a network of the relevant European efforts and aspirations in order to increase the weight of talent support in European educational policies. Following a series of consultations, the first document presenting the components of the future European Talent Support Network had been compiled by Professor Péter Csermely, the President of the European Council for High Ability (ECHA) by 2014, and it was adopted by the General Assembly of ECHA. This was followed by the election of the members of the first "operative unit", the Qualification Committee, consisting of talent support professionals of 7 countries, in charge of the evaluation of European Talent Centres. The first "Call to Be a European Talent Centre" appeared in February 2015 and, based on the applications, the Committee selected the first 14 European Talent Centres, and the Network was officially founded with these participants on 29 September 2015, in the Brussels European Parliament building.

- By the first half of 2021, the Network had had 26 centres, 22 in European and 4 in non-European countries.
- Thanks to the joint networking activity of the Talent Centres, ETSN had been joined by more than 400 Talent Points from 48 countries.

# EUROPEAN & ASSOCIATED EUROPEAN TALENT CENTRES IN 2021



## THE NETWORK TODAY

The European Talent Support Network is a continuously transforming system under development, that is made up of European Talent Centres, of equal standing, representing its hubs, and European Talent Points, representing the points of the Network.

### Talent Centres:

European Talent Centres are institutions doing excellent professional work in several talent support fields within a region or in a country. They are quite different from each other in many respects. A Talent Centre

- has to demonstrate that it conducts professionally sound talent support activity in its country or in a major region, with a professional staff that can provide information of adequate quality on matters concerning talent support;
- it must be open to networking, to efficient information transmission, talent point registration, exchange of best practices, cooperation and to participation in joint projects with other Centres/Points;
- its tasks include, in addition to doing quality work, network-building and supplying relevant professional information to the Network members.

The set of activities of individual European Talent Centres may differ: some tend to focus more on teacher training due to their university linkages, others on working directly with highly able youngsters. Most are in contact with the highest-level decision makers of their state, its ministries competent in education, and help decision making through their research activity and professional recommendations. This diversity is crucial for the strength and complexity of the emerging European Talent Support Network. Within the Network, the European Talent Centres assume more responsibility for coordination and information exchange at regional, national or all-European level.



### Talent Points:

- organise local activities in the field of high ability;
- are organisations focusing on talent support (for example, educational institutions), and/or on highly abled young people, their parents, teachers, mentors, policy makers.

Participation in the European Talent Support Network requires community-oriented thinking: each country contributes its own perspectives to articulating and achieving the common goals; at the same time, networking provides the Centres structural, professional and emotional security.