

Please quote: AR/RG/ok

Strasbourg, 1 September 2020

To youth organisations interested in cooperating with the Council of Europe youth sector

We are pleased to inform you that the process for applications for activities to be held in co-operation with the European Youth Centres as part of the Youth for Democracy programme in the second semester of 2021 is now open. These activities concern, for the main part, study sessions and "special projects". The specific conditions and criteria for the activities are appended to this message, together with an application form.

The programme of activities for 2021 will be run according to the priorities and programme orientations decided by the Joint Council on Youth for the biennium 2020 - 2021. Accordingly, we invite you to submit proposals for activities falling within the following expected results:

1. Access to rights

- One study session on implementing the Committee of Ministers' Recommendation CM/Rec(2016)7 on young people's access to rights;
- One study session on continuing the Human Rights Education Youth Programme, including information and media literacy with children and young people;
- One study session on shrinking civic spaces for young people and youth organisations.

2. Youth participation and youth work

- One study session on political youth participation and freedom of association;
- One study session on youth participation based on the Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life;
- One study session on quality and methodology of non-formal education in youth organisations activities

3. Inclusive and peaceful societies

- Two study sessions on gender equality with an intersectional approach;
- Two study sessions on Roma youth participation with an intersectional approach;
- Two study sessions on social inclusion of refugees and migrants.

More details about specific issues addressed under each priority can be found at <https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/priorities> and in the application form.

For the Council of Europe, study sessions represent an important way of associating young people to Youth for Democracy programme and a concrete means of support to youth organisations and networks, notably by covering the costs of the activity and providing educational support.

Youth organisations and networks intending to apply for a study session for the first semester of 2021 should send their application by **15 October 2020** to eyc.studysessions@coe.int.

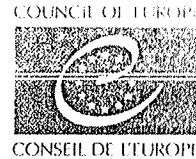
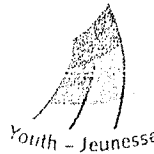
We hope that the restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic will allow us to implement the 2021 programme according to expectations so the European Youth Centres can fully play their role as educational institutions for intercultural learning, European cooperation and youth participation. Please visit regularly our internet site for updates www.coe.int/youth

In case of doubt or in need of advice, please contact my colleagues in the Youth Department at eyc.studysessions@coe.int

Thank you in advance for your support and interest in cooperating with the Council of Europe.



Antje Rothmund
Head of Department



DDCP-YD (2020) 119

Strasbourg, 4 August 2020

Information about and criteria for applications by youth organisations for activities to be held in co-operation with the European Youth Centres

As adopted by the Programming Committee on Youth
at its 43rd meeting (23-24 June 2020)

The European Youth Centres of the Council of Europe, in Strasbourg and Budapest, were set up to support youth participation in Europe and to provide support - through education and training – to associative networks and projects interested in sharing the Council of Europe's principles and priorities in the youth field.

In addition to their own programme of education and training activities, the European Youth Centres carry out a yearly programme of study sessions and other activities held in co-operation with non-governmental and governmental youth partners. These activities reflect the principles of co-management and partnership with young people and their organisations that are at the heart of the youth policy of the Council of Europe and contribute to the implementation of the Youth for Democracy programme.

These activities - of which the most visible are the study sessions – are based on co-operation between the partner organisations and the Council of Europe's Youth Department. The programme is based on applications submitted twice a year and decided upon by the Programming Committee on Youth. The activities are globally financed by the budget of the youth sector of the Council of Europe (specific modalities are available at the Secretariat).

1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- a. European/International non-governmental youth organisations with partners or branches in at least 8 European countries;
- b. European formal or informal networks of youth organisations and other non-governmental youth structures bringing together partners from at least 8 European countries; networks are considered eligible if their members or affiliates share a common purpose and long-term aims and their commitment for cooperation clearly goes beyond a specific time, project or activity;
- c. Sub-regional networks of youth organisations and/or national youth councils and structures involved in youth work, from at least 5 neighbouring countries

Applicants should be involved in areas of youth work relevant to the Council of Europe's youth policy and interested in contributing to the work priorities and principles of the Council of Europe's youth field.

2. ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

a. *Study Sessions*

Study sessions are international educational youth seminars (meetings), lasting between four and eight days, which bring together multipliers active in youth organisations or networks to deepen the understanding, and prepare future action, about a specific subject of common interest and relevance to the priorities of the youth organisation(s) and of the Council of Europe Youth sector. They are organised in co-operation with youth organisations and networks, and are held at one of the European Youth Centres, in Strasbourg or Budapest.

A study session should combine pan-European approaches and perspectives with local/grassroots youth work experiences. The contents of study sessions filter down to the grassroots, as participants in a study session, mostly local leaders, act as multipliers towards their peers. The results of study sessions can be implemented and used by participants in their local realities, in addition to their contribution to the policies of the youth organisations and of the Council of Europe.

A typical study session brings together between 20 and 40 participants from 4 to 8 working days and is held in 2 languages with simultaneous interpretation (if required). The participants are recruited through the channels of the partner organisation(s) and the programme is prepared by an educational team composed by the partner organisation(s) with the participation of an educational advisor of the Council of Europe.

b. *Double Study Sessions*

Double study sessions have the same function as study sessions, with the following specifications:

- They are proposed and implemented by at least two applicant organisations;
- They bring together a minimum of 40 and a maximum of 70 participants, including the preparatory team;
- have a maximum duration of 5 working days (exceptions are possible, if justified);
- may benefit – when justified – from interpretation into three working languages.

c. *Symposia*

Symposia are activities addressing themes and matters of common concern and interest for both the governmental and non-governmental partners of the Youth Department. Symposia are aimed at knowledge production and contributing to the youth policy development of the Council of Europe and its governmental and non-governmental partners. Symposia are decided upon by and run under the supervision of the Programming Committee on Youth on the basis of the following guidelines:

- Applications may be submitted by 4 co-operating partners (unless directly decided by the Joint Council on Youth);
- The participants are recruited from the wide circle of governmental and non-governmental partners of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe;

- The secretariat and administration of symposia is secured by the Secretariat of the European Youth Centre. The recruitment of participants is made by the Secretariat; the selection of participants should be done together with the preparatory team;
- Symposia are prepared by a preparatory team comprising representatives of the applicants, the Secretariat and, where appropriate, representatives of the statutory bodies.

d. Special projects

Special projects are activities of an innovative character that fall outside the specific conditions of study sessions and symposia. Such projects should provide benefits for the organisation, network or youth structure concerned and have a wider application in the programme of the Youth Department. Consultation with the Secretariat of the Youth Department is recommended before applications are submitted.

3. NON-ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The following activities are not eligible for support in co-operation with the European Youth Centre:

- activities dealing mainly with internal affairs of the organisation, such as statutory meetings, general assemblies, congresses, etc.;
- activities which are not related with the Council of Europe's work or priorities, and do not offer space to explore the Council of Europe's youth standards, approaches and resources.
- activities with a predominantly competitive character;
- activities that are part of a school or university programme;
- activities with uniquely a vocational training character;
- profit-making activities.

4. CRITERIA APPLICABLE TO ALL ACTIVITIES

All activities must:

- conform to the principles laid down in the Statutes of the Council of Europe and the European Youth Centre and, specifically, show a commitment to a European society respectful of human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy, cultural diversity and social cohesion, and the participation of young people
- aim to develop synergies and have a multiplying effect, on local, regional, national and/or European level
- relate to problems and concerns of young people and seek to involve young people as a resource
- be an experience in participation, planned intercultural learning and human rights education
- seek to contribute to achieving gender equality¹;
- secure gender neutrality² in the group of participants, except in the cases of single-sex youth organisations or networks and of activities that are specifically planned for single-sex groups and this is specifically explained and requested in the application form;
- involve participants residents from at least 8 member states of the Council of Europe
- strive to secure a balance of the geographical origin of participants among all the Contracting Parties to the European Cultural Convention;
- be documented and its results made available to a wider public
- be prepared, run and evaluated by a predominantly young international multicultural educational team in co-operation with the Centre's educational staff
- make good use of the European Youth Centre from an institutional and educational point of view.

Common quality standards

All activities, regardless of the format, are expected to conform with the Quality standards in education and training activities of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe.

¹ Understood as "an equal visibility, empowerment and participation of both sexes in all spheres of public and private life. Gender equality is the opposite of gender inequality, not of gender difference, and aims to promote the full participation of women and men in society (...)" (Council of Europe Gender Equality Glossary).

² a gender-neutral approach ensures that no ground for discrimination is created on the basis of social roles, sex or gender (see Gender impact assessment of the programme Youth for Democracy).

5. SPECIFIC CRITERIA APPLICABLE TO STUDY SESSIONS

- a. study sessions must address an issue of contemporary European societies from the point of view of young people, or matters affecting young people and their organisations across the member states of the Council of Europe
- b. study session should provide an input to, or benefit from the programme of work priorities of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe, and are complementary in terms of the theme, approach or target groups to the rest of its programme of activities
- c. the theme and purpose of the study session is proposed and developed by the applying organisation/s and should contribute to development of the work priorities of the Council of Europe's youth sector
- d. study sessions must have aims and objectives that can be pursued or attained in one activity or session. Applications for study sessions comprising multiple activities over one or several years will not be accepted unless they are part of special projects.
- e. the programme of the study sessions should be organised so as to enable participatory approaches in learning based on non-formal education principles and methodologies
- f. study sessions must have a minimum duration of 4 working days and a maximum of 8 working days – exceptions to the maximum duration may be granted if justified in the application
- g. study sessions must bring together a minimum of 20 and a maximum of 40 participants, including the preparatory team (with the exception of double study sessions)
- h. participants coming from one country must not exceed 20% of the total number of participants. Up to 15% of all participants may come from non-member countries.
- i. the majority of participants must be under 30 years of age – with a maximum of 25% over the age of 30
- j. the participants must be able to act as multipliers and contribute to the follow-up of the activity within their own context and organisation. The recruitment of the participants is the sole responsibility of the partner organisation/s
- k. the programme of the study session and the methodology must be prepared and implemented by a predominantly young multicultural team of facilitators or trainers provided by the partner organisation and by an educational advisor provided by the Council of Europe
- l. the preparatory team – including the educational advisor of the Council of Europe- must meet at least once at the latest eight weeks before the beginning of the study session
- m. study sessions may normally be held in two working languages with simultaneous interpretation. Exceptions to this rule are possible when justified in the application and accepted by the Programming Committee
- n. the partner organisations must produce a report of the activity and make it available within 2 months after the end of the session.

Prioritisation of applications

In the selection of applications for study sessions the Programming Committee will give priority for activities that:

- a. promise to be innovative in terms of method, approach, target group or intellectual output
- b. are the result of collaboration between two or more applicants
- c. can most benefit from the Centre's institutional and educational support
- d. reach target groups / young people who could not so far benefit from or have been less involved in the activities of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe.

Priority cannot be given to applications submitted by organisations that have not provided a activity report of their last study session, have not provided a satisfactory activity and financial report on grants received from the European Youth Foundation (EYF) or have not reimbursed to the EYF any outstanding sums due.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR THE APPLICATIONS

All applications received are first assessed by the secretariat of the Youth Department on the grounds of:

- a) Eligibility of the applying organisation(s)
- b) Conformity with the formal criteria for the activities (e.g. duration, number of participants, countries of origin...)
- c) The educational/quality criteria related to the purpose, programme and process implementation of the activity
- d) The criteria for prioritisation.

NB: The non-conformity of an application with any of the criteria in a) and b) automatically disqualifies it.

The assessments of the secretariat are communicated to, and discussed by the Programming Committee on Youth, a co-managed body composed of 8 governmental and 8 non-governmental members of the Joint Council on Youth.

The Programming Committee on Youth takes the final decisions on eligible applications, prioritises the ones to be accepted in the programme and issues specific recommendations to the applicants. The Programming Committee on Youth may also place some applications on reserve list or invite applicants to re-submit their application.

6. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

There are two yearly calls for applications for activities with deadlines on:

- **15 April**, for activities planned for January-June of the following year
- **15 October**, for activities planned for July-December of the following year.

The calls are announced in the Internet site of the Youth Department (www.coe.int/youth) in the 4 weeks preceding the deadline.

7. SUPPORT TO NEW APPLICANTS

Organisations interested in applying and having no experience of organising study sessions in cooperation with the European Youth Centres, may seek further information and advice from the educational staff of the Youth Department: eyc.studyssessions@coe.int.



DDP-YD/ETD (2020) 120

1 September 2020

Application for an activity
to be held in co-operation with the European Youth Centre
in Strasbourg or Budapest in the second semester of 2021

Please refer to the DDCP-YD (2020) 119 for the general and specific criteria to be observed

Please respect the page layout and limit the total number of pages to 9

ACTIVITY IDENTIFICATION

1. **Organisation(s)¹ applying:**

2. **Title of the activity:**

3. **Type of activity you are applying for:**
 study session double study session
 special project (please provide details)

4. **Preferred venue (select one option only)**
 Strasbourg Budapest No preference

5. **Total number of participants, including the preparatory team:**
 20 25 30 35 40 Other (please justify):

6. **Languages foreseen (for simultaneous interpretation):**
 English French Russian Other (specify):

7. **Number of working days for the activity** excluding the arrival and departure days:

8. **To which priorities of the programme Youth for Democracy and Human Rights, of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe, will your activity contribute?**
 1 Access to rights, with the following programme orientations:
 - Implementing the Committee of Ministers' Recommendation CM/Rec(2016)7 on young people's access to rights.

¹ When applying for the first time, please supply details of aims, membership, structures and activities of your organisation. Attach the statute of your organisation and a summary of it in English or French.

- Continuing the Human Rights Education Youth Programme, including information and media literacy with children and young people, as a contribution to the implementation of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education.
- Continuing to identify and remedy the effects of shrinking civic space on young people and youth organisations.

2 Youth participation and youth work, with the following programme orientations:

Youth participation

- Supporting young people to access their rights to assemble and freely form, join and be active in associations; enhancing young people's meaningful participation in political processes.
- Supporting youth organisations to promote and implement the principles of the Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life and the manual "Have your say".

Youth work

- Supporting the quality development, sustainability and recognition of youth work and non-formal education and learning.

3 Inclusive and peaceful societies, with the following programme orientations:

Promoting social inclusion, fostering active participation, gender equality and combating all forms of discrimination taking an intersectional approach – with a specific focus on,

- Roma youth and other minority groups;
- Young refugees and their transition from childhood to adulthood;
- LGBTQI young people;
- Young women and girls.

How will the activity contribute to the priorities that you selected?

CONTACT INFORMATION

9. Address telephone, e-mail and website of the organisation(s) applying for the activity:

10. Name, function, address and e-mail (if different from above) of the person(s) responsible for the activity on behalf of your organisation(s):

11. Are you co-operating with any other organisation(s) in making this request? If so, please give details about the partner and their role in the activity:

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

12. Please explain the need for this activity and its purpose in the organisational annual / long-term programme. Indicate previous experience (if any) in the subject area of the activity.

13. Please describe the foreseen aim and objectives of the activity.

14. Are there any practical outputs of your activity foreseen? If yes, please describe them briefly.
15. Please provide a general outline of the daily programme envisaged. (The programme will be finalised during the preparation process and at the preparation meeting between the educational advisor and the team).
16. Please describe the approach and working methods that will enable the achievement of the objectives. How will a participatory approach be integrated in the activity? (Please be as specific as possible).
17. Please describe how you plan to include intercultural learning and human rights education as transversal dimensions of your activity.
18. What is the multiplying/synergy effect of the activity?
19. What is the desired profile of the lecturers or experts to be invited? (Please include names, if known, and function in the activity).
20. Do you have specific reasons for holding this activity in cooperation with the EYC? What particular educational, institutional and administrative support do you expect from the Centre?
21. Please give details of the composition of the multicultural preparatory team of facilitators (names if known, country of residence, gender and age, role in the organisation), including details of the previous experience of each team member in organising and implementing educational activities.
22. Please provide details of the preparatory process, including meetings, envisaged (dates, places, purpose and short description).
23. In which way do you expect/intend to follow-up the activity and its results (in addition to the written report)?
24. How do you plan to secure the production of the study session report (also explain the type of report you envision to produce)?
25. How will the activity contribute to achieving gender equality?

PARTICIPANTS

26. Type/profile of participants to be invited. Please explain also their relation to the theme and the objectives of the activity.
27. Please provide details on the procedure for recruitment and selection of the participants.
28. Please describe how you intend to take into account gender equality in the selection process and composition of the group
29. Please estimate the average age of the participants:
30. Countries of residence (please indicate the envisaged number of participants per country)

Signatories of the European Cultural Convention							
Albania		Estonia		Liechtenstein		Romania	
Andorra		Finland		Lithuania		Russian Federation	
Armenia		France		Luxembourg		San Marino	
Austria		Georgia		Malta		Serbia	
Azerbaijan		Germany		Monaco		Slovak Republic	
Belarus		Greece		Montenegro		Slovenia	
Belgium		Holy See		The Netherlands		Spain	
Bosnia and Herzegovina		Hungary		North Macedonia		Sweden	
Bulgaria		Iceland		Norway		Switzerland	
Croatia		Ireland		Poland		Turkey	
Cyprus		Italy		Portugal		Ukraine	
Czech Republic		Kazakhstan		Republic of Moldova		United Kingdom	
Denmark		Latvia					
Other countries:							

TECHNICAL DETAILS

31. Please indicate any special needs or remarks regarding the language skills of the participants.
32. Please give us an indication of your preference of dates/period for the activity (in order of priority), bearing in mind that the programme of activities of the European Youth Centre may not permit us to reserve for you the exact dates/period you would like.

-
-
-
-

OTHER

33. Any other comments or information

Applications must be sent to:
eyc.studysessions@coe.int

15 October 2020