



DJS/EYCB/ENTER/ZL/ZM/2010/024

Strasbourg, 26 April 2010

**ENTER!**  
**Access to Social Rights for young people from disadvantaged  
neighbourhoods**

**Seminar**  
**Gender Equality**  
**in youth projects**

23 – 27 June 2010  
European Youth Centre, Strasbourg

**Seminar description**

## **The ENTER! Project**

Within its work priority “Social Cohesion and Inclusion of Young People”, the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe initiated a two years project to share experiences and develop innovative and effective youth work and youth policy responses to exclusion, discrimination and violence affecting young people in multicultural disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

The project, run with the support of the Flemish Agency of Foreign Affairs, draws on the experience of the Council of Europe youth sector in developing non-formal learning and training of youth workers in order to explore ways of responding to challenges faced by young people and youth work institutions.

The project is being developed with the following objectives in mind:

- To address situations of conflict and exclusion of young people living in multicultural environments through non-formal education and youth work projects;
- To develop conceptual and practical means of translating intercultural dialogue into the realities of youth work;
- To explore and identify means for innovative youth work projects with young people at risk of exclusion and violence;
- To initiate, support and evaluate thirty-five innovative pilot projects with a high multiplier effect across Europe;
- To address situations of exclusion, conflict and violence affecting young people through partnerships between youth work, youth policy and local authorities;
- To consolidate results of the “all different – all equal” European youth campaign in relation to diversity, participation and human rights.

One core element of the ENTER! project is a long-term training course for youth workers/leaders working in disadvantaged neighbourhoods with young people who face difficulties in exercising their social human rights. The course aims at developing their skills and competences in setting up projects for inclusion and in sharing them with colleagues across Europe. The projects of the participants should serve as a basis for policy recommendations on the access of young people to social rights.

In addition to the training course and its support measures, the project includes seminars and meetings in 2010 and 2011 aimed at complementing the work done with youth workers by deepening specific issues and themes and especially connecting the course and the project with the other priorities of the youth policy agenda of the Council of Europe.

## **The framework of the meeting**

The Council of Europe is the continent's oldest treaty organisation, founded in 1949 which consists of 47 countries.

The training programme of the Council of Europe's Directorate of Youth and Sport is aimed at promoting the building and strengthening of open and democratic European societies. This programme is based on a philosophy of participation, democracy and intercultural exchange for young people who are in a position to act as "multipliers".

The knowledge and experience gained at international seminars and training courses can be used by young people all over Europe.

In the past 9 years, the Council of Europe's Directorate of Youth and Sport, within the framework of its Human Rights Education Youth Programme, has focused its work on working against violence, and in particular gender-based violence, through various activities such as seminars, study sessions and training courses. The experiences collected throughout these activities were brought together in the production of an educational resource for youth leaders and youth workers: 'Gender Matters – A manual on addressing gender-based violence affecting young people'. The manual has been disseminated widely through further training activities of the Directorate of Youth and Sport and different youth organisations and associations across Europe.

The Council of Europe has also been working on preventing and responding to gender-based violence through other means and by using different approaches. Recently, a campaign on Combating Violence Against Women, including Domestic Violence was initiated as a follow up to the Action Plan developed at the Third Summit (Warsaw, 2005) of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe members states. The Campaign consisted of three dimensions: intergovernmental, parliamentary and local and regional, and was carried out by the Council of Europe as well as its member states, in partnership with intergovernmental organisations and NGOs involved in the protection of women against violence.

In 2009 the Directorate of Youth and Sport organised an expert seminar on "Addressing gender-based violence in youth work" with the aim to consolidate the experience of the Directorate of Youth and Sport in its work on addressing gender-based violence affecting young people and develop recommendations on how to work on this topic in the future. The very first issue the group of experts proposed and agreed upon was that the work of the Directorate of Youth and Sport and its partners has to be extended from a gender-based violence perspective to a wider spectrum of gender equality, including gender mainstreaming and LGBTQ issues.

The Council of Europe has been active in the issues related to gender equality in different fields, notably through the Gender Equality Division of the Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs, which promotes gender mainstreaming as a main strategy to achieve gender equality and which implies engendering of all policy processes with the aim to meet the needs of all genders.

Young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods very often face different forms of gender discrimination and gender-based violence. This seminar will try to identify responses to how these challenges can be tackled in youth work in order to ensure full gender equality. The seminar should look into the specific challenges faced by young people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods when it comes to gender issues.

## Aim

To share ideas and experiences on how gender equality can be promoted and mainstreamed in youth projects and develop recommendations on how to ensure gender equality in youth work with young people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

## Objectives

- To identify challenges young people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods face in relation to gender equality;
- To explore current trends of gender mainstreaming in youth work;
- To exchange experiences and good practices of gender mainstreaming in youth projects and youth work in general;
- To explore ways of ensuring gender equality in youth projects with and by young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods;
- To analyse and make proposals on how the principles of gender equality in youth work with young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods can be implemented in European youth policy

## Format and Methodology

The seminar will bring together 25 participants (policy makers, youth organisations representatives, researchers and young people living in multicultural disadvantaged neighbourhoods). The activity will be based on the principles of non formal education. The meeting is designed as a mutual learning situation, where participants can share experience and ideas related to the topic of the seminar. The programme of the meeting will provide space for individual as well as group reflection and debate, encourage exchange of best practices, group-work, theoretical inputs and will help to create the theoretical and practical framework in which participants will reflect upon existing examples of youth work practice in relation to gender equality. In addition, participants will explore how they can develop their practices further, make recommendations and create synergies among each others' work.

## Working Language

The working languages will be English and French.

## Participants' Profile

The course is aimed at youth workers and social workers, active members of youth organisations, as well as at young people not being part of youth organisations, youth researchers and policy makers who have experience in implementing the principles of gender equality in youth work practice or are interested in exploring further how these principles can be put in practice in youth projects targeted at young people coming from disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Some participants might also be involved in the long term training course on the access to social rights for young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

All applicants must:

- be aged between 18 and 30 years (does not apply for policy-makers and researchers);
- be actively involved in multicultural youth work, preferably working with young people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods;

- be ready to share their experience and ideas on gender equality and gender mainstreaming in youth work
- be able to work in English and/or French
- be committed to attend the full duration of the seminar

## Arrival and departure

The seminar will last from 24 to 26 June 2010 (working days). Participants should arrive on 23 June and leave on 27 June.

## Financial and practical conditions of participation

### Participation fee

There is no participation fee for this seminar.

### Travel expenses

Travel expenses and visa fees (on presentation of the relevant receipts) are reimbursed according to the rules of the Directorate of Youth and Sport. Only participants who have attended the entire seminar can be reimbursed. Payments will be made either by bank transfer after the course, or at the end of the seminar in cash in Euros.

### Accommodation

Board and lodging are provided and paid for by the Directorate of Youth and Sport at the European Youth Centre Strasbourg.

## Programme

The programme of the meeting will be developed by a team of trainers and professionals working with young people. It will be communicated to participants at a later stage.

## How to apply?

All candidates must apply by filling in the online application form available at <http://youthapplications.coe.int/>.

The preparatory team will select participants on the basis of the profile outlined above, ensuring a balanced group (sex, geographical regions, different types of experiences, cultural backgrounds and organisations). Some place will be reserved for the participants of the LTTC ENTER.

A waiting list may be established. Candidates will be informed as to whether their application has been accepted, rejected or put on the waiting list, by 20 May 2010.

The applications must be filled in and submitted **by 16 May 2010** (at the latest).