

22 November 2017

Call for trainers to provide educational advice and support to youth delegates over the course of the year 2018

Since 2014 the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities has invited young people to participate in its work within the framework of its initiative “Rejuvenating politics”. This initiative involves the choice, via selection process, of one young person per member State to participate in the Congress’ two sessions, its committee meetings and possibly other events over the course of one year as well as to design, develop and implement grass-roots projects promoting the Council of Europe, the Congress and the concept of youth participation in general in co-operation with their local/regional authorities.

The Congress is looking for two trainers capable of mentoring these young people, individually and as a group, throughout the year, so that they may contribute as fully as possible to the work while gaining valuable experience which they can multiply back home.

Nature of the task

1. Helping to select the youth delegates

Trainers will be required to participate (virtual participation) in the final selection panel for the youth delegates (January 2018);

2. Providing advice, support and supervision for the sessions (34th Session: 27-29 March 2018 and 35th Session: 6-8 November 2018 at the Palais de l’Europe, Strasbourg, France)

The work will entail, in particular but not exclusively:

- online (Skype and email) preparation of youth delegates for the session (to enhance their participation and ensure they are session-ready before they come). This entails introducing the participants to the main values and approaches of the Council of Europe and of the Congress, in particular their policy on youth participation, and to Congress session procedure;
- taking part in a day-long preparatory meeting with the Congress Secretariat in January (34th Session) and September (35th Session);
- welcoming the youth delegates on Sunday evening 25 March and 4 November 2018;
- preparing, on Monday, 26 March, and 5 November, the youth delegates’ participation in the Congress session and committee meetings, and running a training programme on subjects relevant to the session, to be agreed upon during the preparatory meeting;
- developing the youth delegates’ ability to work together and perform as a group by working on their expectations, communication and co-operation skills;

- liaising with the Secretariat of the Congress on the implementation of the training element, the running of the session and any other relevant matter;
- Moderating the youth delegate and Alumni Network Facebook pages;
- at the end of each session, on Thursday afternoon of 29 March and 8 November, evaluating the participants' experience in terms of: input, results, experience of meaningful participation, personal learning;
- preparing the presentation of the projects undertaken by the youth delegates, possibly during the November 2018 session;
- submitting reports at the end of each session, as well as a global report by end of November 2018, which evaluate the youth delegate's participation in each session and give recommendations for follow up and improving the process.

3. Helping to structure the youth delegate's projects at local and regional level

With regard to the youth projects, trainers will be required, from the end of March to the end of September, to give assistance and advice to the youth delegates with regard to the development of local/regional projects and in particular help with:

- finalizing the design of the projects;
- planning a strategy to select and contact local/regional actors;
- designing evaluation mechanisms;
- developing their local/regional projects;
- promoting visibility.

This work will entail:

- preparation work with the youth delegates during the March session
- reading and commenting draft project proposals;
- Skype mentoring between the sessions (4 hours per participant x 47 participants)
- giving feed-back on the development of the projects.
- giving e-mail support.

4. Participation of youth delegates in other events

This work will entail:

- communicating with secretariat and youth delegates concerning requests for participation in Congress meetings, seminars and other events/tasks and mentoring of the youth delegates concerned.

Competences required

- Excellent knowledge of youth participation, especially the Revised European Charter on the participation of young people in local and regional life, is essential.
- Experience of working with politicians/political parties/political assemblies is a definite advantage, as is knowledge of the rules and procedures of a political assembly.

- Ability to introduce, explain and facilitate individual and group learning in the areas of youth policy development; non-formal education; youth participation; leadership and communication;
- Familiarity with the meaning and practice of these concepts in the Council of Europe and in youth work.
- Ability to present the relation between youth work, non-formal learning, human rights and democracy.
- Experience in preparing and running intercultural training activities based on non-formal learning approaches.
- Ability to contribute to and work in an intercultural team of trainers.
- Excellent knowledge of English, knowledge of French and other working languages of the Congress desirable.

Please note that you must be physically available during the period of the two sessions as well as two preparatory meetings one month before each session. In addition, virtual availability at the times mentioned above and in particular in between the sessions to mentor the youth delegate's projects is also essential.

Honoraria proposed: senior trainer fees for approximately 33 working days.

How to apply

Please provide us with information on your experience and competences which are required to run this activity, as well as a CV and your reasons for wanting to work on this project before the deadline.

Deadline: 12 December 2017

Contact information: congress.youth@coe.int