

REPORT

13TH
UNIVERSITY
ON YOUTH &
DEVELOPMENT

CEULAJ, SPAIN
16TH – 23RD
SEPTEMBER 2012

YOUTH
RIGHTS



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The University on Youth and Development gathered for the 13th time in 2012 and renewed hopes and aspirations to reinforce the home of the Global Youth Movement. The UYD is a space for debate, training, exchange of experiences and affirmative action concerning Global Youth Co-operation. Global Youth Co-operation is a concept that has emerged from within the youth movement during the nineties. It is young people and youth organisations collective response to the challenges of globalisation. This publication has been made possible with the support of the European Youth Forum and the NSC (in the framework of the Joint Management Agreement between the European Commission - EuropeAid Co-operation Office and the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe.



Joint Management Agreement between the European Commission – EuropeAid Co-operation Office and the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe
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This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of its author(s) and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union.

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Foreword

I have lived this 13th University on Youth and Development, (UYD), intensively and twice: the first time when attending the whole event between 16th and 23rd of September 2012 and the second time when coming back to it in memory while looking at the pictures and videos for the writing of this report. Due to my task of General Rapporteur, I had the privilege to visit all the activities that took place and had the opportunity to speak with members of the teams running these activities, as well speaking with a wide range of participants. I actively listened with all my senses, ears, eyes, heart and mind to gain a full appreciation of this 13th UYD. Listening is more than hearing « stories » with your ears. It is paying attention to the emotions the « story » raises within you, and listening to what remains unspoken, especially when it comes to the topic of Youth Rights. Some testimonies of participants are still vibrating in me many months after we met.

When I was invited to write this report, my first reaction was to decline the offer. I have participated in 5 past editions of the UYD and I had the chance to experience the diversity and the spirit of solidarity and co-operation that exists in this unique space. I was afraid of not being able to return the richness and depth of all activities and people involved in the UYD. Nevertheless the feeling of belonging year after year was stronger than my fears and so I finally accepted to take the challenge of contributing differently this year to the UYD.

For me and many more youth workers from Europe, Africa, Asia, and Latin America, the UYD has been over the years the sole sustainable opportunity for us to meet, share and discuss in a diverse and global environment. UYD fulfils a very important role in global youth work but its existence needs to keep being recognised and valorised in order to anchor and multiply the added-value of the diversity it offers.

In this sense, this report is an attempt to:

- // translate in words, figures and images what is the UYD
- // explain why it exists
- // describe how it works
- // capture what happened
- // give a brief glance to the achievements of this 13th edition

Writing a report can be a quite lonely activity and was totally unknown territory in my case. I'm grateful to the UYD partners for helping me to turn it into a collective exercise. This report is the result of 6 interviews, 48 emails and phone calls, 7 UYD partners meetings, 164 corrections, 752 hesitations, 47 giggles, 36 coffees-chats and 2 proof-readings. Certainly it couldn't have been drafted without the contribution and support of the Joint Programme and Media Team.

I also would like to thank the INJUVE and CEULAJ's staff as well as the North-South Centre and all the volunteers that worked in the University for their smooth facilitation in collecting all the necessary technical and background information for this report.

A special thank you to Ana Maria Forsberg and Ozgehan Senyuva for their kind advice, (General Rapporteurs of previous UYD editions). Also to Mark Taylor and Nik Paddison for their patient re-reading and proof-reading.

Thank you Youth Express Network for not only being my background organisation and backbone in professional life but for encouraging me always to push my own limits.

Last but not least, appreciation to all you gifted participants and team members who put your heart and energy into this 13th UYD. This report is also meant to diffuse your hard work and outcomes to the ones who couldn't be there.

I thank you

Véronique Bertholle, France

General Rapporteur

UYD 2012

List of Abbreviations

- ADYNE: African Diaspora Youth living in Europe
- AUYD: African University on Youth and Development (Cape Verde)
- AYC: African Youth Charter
- CEULAJ: Euro Latin American Youth Centre
- CJE: Consejo de la Juventud de España (Spanish Youth Council)
- CoE: Council of Europe
- EEE-YFU: European Educational Exchanges – Youth For Understanding
- EFIL: European Federation for Intercultural Learning
- ERYICA: European Youth Information and Counselling Agency
- FLAJ: Foro Latino-Americano de Juventud
- GE: Global Education
- ICRY: Iberoamerican Convention on the Rights of Youth
- INJUVE: Instituto de la Juventud de España
- NFE: Non Formal Education
- NSC: North-South Centre of the Council of Europe
- OIJ: Organización Iberoamericana de Juventud
- PACE: Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- UPC: University on Participation and Citizenship (Uruguay)
- UYD: University on Youth and Development (Spain)
- YEU: Youth for Exchange and Understanding
- YFJ: European Youth Forum
- YNGO: Youth Non-Governmental Organisation

Introduction

“To be good multipliers of the UYD, we need first to understand what it is and how it works.”

Fernando Traversa (Uruguay, trainer in the NSC activity)

First of all and in order to avoid misunderstandings: Why is this event called 'University'? The concept of 'University' having the highest importance in the world of education, the University on Youth and Development/UYD is an attempt to demonstrate that Non-Formal Education approaches also deserve a high level of recognition. University also stands for 'Universal' and for Global Youth Movement.

Since its first edition in 2000, the UYD¹, this unique space of gathering the regional and global youth movement is jointly organised by; the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe (NSC) together with the Spanish Youth Institute (INJUVE) that kindly hosts the event in its Euro-Latin American Youth Centre (CEULAJ), the European Youth Forum (YFJ), the Spanish Youth Council (CJE), the Latin American Youth Forum (FLAJ) and many other international organisations.

During 13 years, core and associated partners have joined the UYD to create synergies, share resources and work together towards the development of global citizens.

The UYD takes place once a year bringing together representatives of youth organisations and youth movements from all over the world who gather in the CEULAJ to discuss, train and be trained as well as to take political action around the main issues on the global agenda.

After 13 years of existence, the UYD has built a name for itself and remains on the top agenda and work plan of many youth organisations. It has become THE annual global event where youth organisations can organise training courses, meetings, workshops and seminars that help them achieve their goals: empowering young people to take informed action towards the building of peaceful and sustainable societies.

This 13th edition gathered together 174 participants from Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America.

The University on Youth and Development is part of the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship, in sisterhood with the University on Participation and Citizenship (UPC - Uruguay) and African University on Youth and Development (AUJD - Cape Verde).

(1) <http://uyd.me>

The UYD World in Words & Figures

UYD Objectives & Principles

The University on Youth and Development is a space for debate, training, exchange of experience and affirmative action concerning youth. For more than a decade now, the core partners and associated partners continue to work together, to strengthen the partnerships to assure that young people do have the space to actively contribute to development, co-operation and to build a global society.

The core partners act as facilitators between different stake-holders, such as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). All the work during the UYD is based on the principles of dialogue, partnership and solidarity.

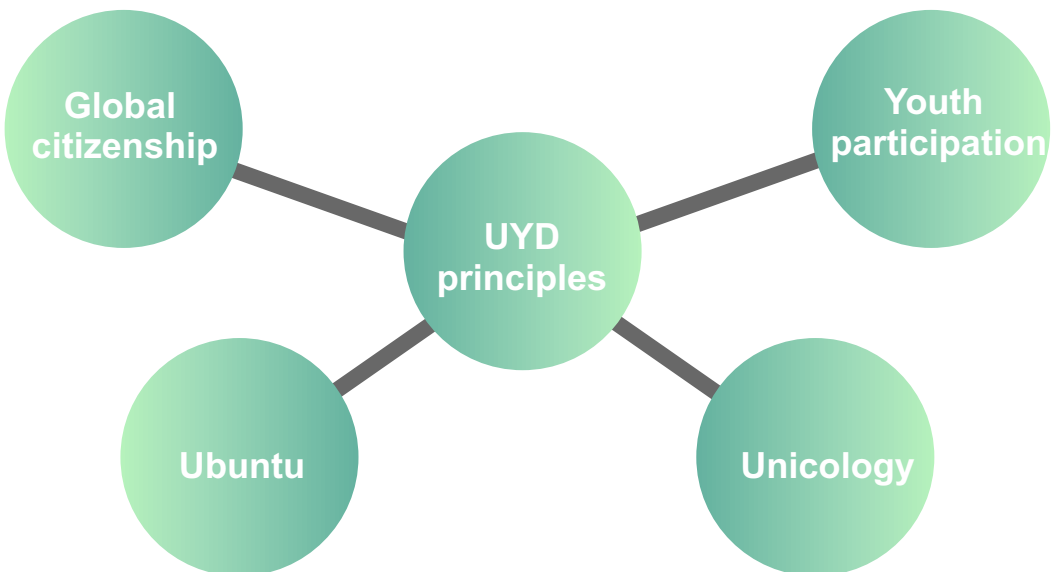
The main objectives of the UYD are:

// to create a political space where youth can act upon and acknowledge the role they play in Global Development

// to initiate and encourage debate aimed at defining the roles youth play in elaborating development policies and in co-operation for development initiatives

// to facilitate a process aimed at defining and implementing projects within the field of youth

The UYD is founded on a core set of values and principles. Here are the most important ones:



Global Citizenship is an umbrella term for the social, political, environmental, or economic actions of globally-minded individuals and communities on a worldwide scale. It refers to the belief that we should think globally, act locally AND think locally, act globally.

Youth participation is the active engagement of young people throughout their communities. It means to be involved, to have tasks, to share and take over responsibility, to have access and to be included. It is about talking and listening, expressing one's own views and listening while others express theirs. The Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe defines youth participation in these terms:

“Participation in the democratic life of any community is about more than voting or standing for election, although these are important elements. Participation and active citizenship is about having the right, the means, the space and the opportunity and where necessary the support to participate in and influence decisions and engaging in actions and activities so as to contribute to building a better society.”²

Ubuntu: The word Ubuntu has its origins in the Bantu languages of Southern Africa. Archbishop Desmond Tutu offered a definition in his book *No Future Without Forgiveness*: “A person with Ubuntu is open and available to others, affirming of others, does not feel threatened that others are able and good, based from a proper self-assurance that comes from knowing that he or she belongs in a greater whole and is diminished when others are humiliated or diminished, when others are tortured or oppressed.” Nelson Mandela explained Ubuntu as follows: “In the old times a traveller through a country would stop at a village and he didn't have to ask for food or for water. Once he stops, the people give him food, entertain him. That is one aspect of Ubuntu, but it will have various aspects. Ubuntu does not mean that people should not enrich themselves. The question therefore is: Are you going to do so in order to enable the community around you to be able to improve?” For the Liberian peace activist Leymah Gbowee it means simply “I am what I am because of who we all are.” This philosophy synthesises the recognition and celebration of diversity and spirit of solidarity that underpins the University.

Unicology: Over the last years, a kind of UYD culture has grown up in which the partners have developed and encouraged inspirational practices in order to build a socially, physically and environmentally sustainable activity. For instance, non-paper policy, low energy consumption, using recycled and recycling materials, using fair trade goods, keeping body and mind fit are initiatives already taking place at the UYD.

(2) Young people were involved in revising this Charter

Unicology in the UYD is based on five pillars, the well-known 5 R's:

// Reflect on consumption habits

// Refuse products that cause damage to the environment or our health

// Reduce garbage production

// Re-use whenever it is possible

// Recycle – to transform into a new product

13th Edition UYD's Joint Theme: « Youth Rights » A Young Concept

The situation of young people today presents us with unprecedented challenges and opportunities. We live in a youthful world, with young people between the ages of 15 and 25 representing 18% of the world's population. However, the evidence gathered tell us that young people suffer disproportionately in relation to poverty globally and that the limited access to resources, education, healthcare and employment, along with social discrimination and the lack of participation in decision-making, are holding them back from achieving their full potential.

In responding to these issues facing young people worldwide, the partners of the Network of the Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship decided that « Youth Rights » would be the Joint Theme for the Sister University events of the year 2012.

In doing so, the partners set out their commitment to engage with youth organisations and other non-governmental organisations, national governments and international institutions to facilitate and support the debate and co-operation aimed to promote youth development through young people's access to their rights, which are inter-linked and mutually reinforcing. Therefore, the University, (either in the partners' activities and/or during the Joint Programme sessions), addressed the rights that young people should enjoy to improve their well-being. These include the access to health care, decent employment, education, both formal and non-formal, and the effective participation in the society, without any forms of discrimination, in full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Through this approach, the 13th Edition of the University delivered also an opportunity to get to know and debate the regional instruments for youth rights and rights-based approach to youth policies.

Youth, Youth Rights, Youth Organisations & Regional Instruments

The concept of « youth rights » is quite young itself. Although a legal category of youth exists, youth rights are still rarely taken in consideration in state legislation and at global level because of a lack of agreement on a definition of youth.

Youth organisations play a prominent role in the process of developing the concept of youth rights at regional and international level: either by actively promoting or protecting youth rights. Two regional legal instruments refer specifically to youth rights: the African Youth Charter and the Iberoamerican Convention on the Rights of Youth.

The African Youth Charter (AYC) was adopted by the Assembly of the African Union in 2006 and entered into force in 2009. It can be seen as the victory of youth organisations that really pushed for it. The Charter defines youth as following: « every person between the ages of 15 and 35 years ». The AYC contains rights and duties for young people. It describes, adapted to the African context, individual and collective rights; for example, the right for marginalised or indigenous groups to enjoy their own culture, religion and language. Universal, civil and political rights; for example, the freedom of expression and freedom of association. Economic, social and cultural rights; for example, the right to be free from hunger, right to education, poverty eradication, and socio-economic integration of youth, elimination of harmful social and cultural practices such as female mutilation... It contains also innovative approaches such as the right to development, the right of youth participation and rights for African Diaspora youth. According to the AYC, every young person has duties towards his/her family, the society, the state and even the international community.

The other regional treaty about youth rights is the Iberoamerican Convention on the Rights of Youth (ICRY) that was adopted in 2005 by the Organisation of Iberoamerican Youth (Organizacion Iberoamericana de Juventud – OIJ). It entered into force in 2008. It is interesting to note that two of the signatories of this Convention are actually European states, Spain and Portugal. The Convention is more restrictive than the AYC since it covers only young people between 15 and 24 years of age. The civil and political rights, the right to peace, the right to the creation of a culture of peace through education and the right to life are innovative ones. In the economic, social and cultural rights, one of the most interesting rights to note is the freedom to sexual education and the right to confidentiality concerning sexual and reproductive health.

If both instruments are currently the only two binding treaties specifically protecting youth rights, they unfortunately both lack international monitoring mechanisms. As a consequence, their implementation fully depends on the willingness and ability of governments.

In Europe, in the absence of a dedicated legal instrument, youth rights are covered by the general European Human Rights system: the European Convention on Human Rights, the European Social Charter, the Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life (Council of Europe) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (United Nations).

In 1993, as a result of a long term and multi-stake-holder process, the European Youth Forum developed a European Charter on Youth Rights. The European debate on youth rights reached an important milestone in 2011 when the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) adopted Recommendation 1978 (2011) 'Towards a Framework Convention on the Rights of Young People', following a European Youth Forum initiative.

UYD Partners: Presentation of Organisations

Nine partners all together contributed to this 13th edition of the UYD. Each partner of the UYD can come with its own activity, (training course, seminar, political or strategic meeting). All these partner activities are parallel to each other but under the umbrella and in coherence with the chosen Joint Theme of the year.

It is very important to note that for all the partners involved the UYD is more than a sum of activities. "Here 1 + 1 is not 2. Here 1 + 1 is 4" Simona Mursec, (Slovenia, Joint Programme Co-ordinator). Participants and partners who come with a specific activity, receive added value in terms of content, (the Joint Theme), and in terms of support and logistics. But to make this added value, the partners have also to give in return an extra contribution to the UYD, not only a financial one but more in the way they prepare their own activity. Partners have to prepare their activity not like a regular training course, seminar or political and strategic meeting with a fixed formatted group size, length of activity, timetable, etc. They have to plan their activity according to the Joint Theme and Joint Programme and contribute to these.

NSC

The European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity of the Council of Europe (known as the "North-South Centre"-NSC) was set up in Lisbon, Portugal in 1990. Its objectives are to provide a framework for European co-operation, designed to heighten public awareness of global interdependence issues and to promote policies of solidarity, complying with the Council of Europe's aims and principles – respect for human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

At the Education and Youth level the objectives of the Centre are to raise European awareness on issues like global interdependence and solidarity, through education and youth, and to promote relations and human contacts between Europe, the Southern Mediterranean and Africa. The NSC's objective regarding global education is to support the development and enhancement of strategies and capacity building for global education, targeting institutions and practitioners in the field of global education in the formal and non-formal sector.

In the youth field, the NSC's objective is to provide training and capacity building for young people and youth organisations as well as to facilitate policy action on youth in development policies, reinforcing the role of youth as a fundamental force in the field of North-South interdependence.

www.nscentre.org

INJUVE and CEULAJ

The Euro-Latin-American Youth Centre (CEULAJ) is a resource and activity centre that is ideal for youth training and information activities, for meetings and experiences between youth organisations and public youth institutions.

CEULAJ's facilities are spread over 100,000 square meters and constitute one of the largest and best equipped venues given over to young people. Every year, the complex, attached to INJUVE « Instituto de la Juventud », part of the Ministry of Health, Social Policy and Equality, is visited by thousands of young people from various countries, as well as by specialists, professionals and politicians working in the field of youth. CEULAJ celebrated this year its 20 years' anniversary.
www.injuve.es | www.ceulaj.injuve.es

YFJ

Independently established by youth organisations, the European Youth Forum, (YFJ – from Youth Forum Jeunesse), is the platform for youth organisations in Europe and is made up of around 100 national youth councils and international non-governmental youth organisations, which are federations of youth organisations in themselves. It brings together tens of millions of young people from all over Europe in order to strive for the rights of all young people.

This independent, democratic, youth-led platform works to empower young people to participate actively in society to improve their own lives by representing and advocating their needs and interests and those of their organisations. As the biggest regional youth platform in the world, the YFJ works to deepen European integration while at the same time contributing to the development of youth work in other regions of the world.

www.youthforum.org

CJE

The Spanish Youth Council, (Consejo de la Juventud de España – CJE), is a platform of youth organisations formally set up by law in 1983. Its members are the regional youth councils operating in Spain as well as other national youth organisations. Its main goal is to promote youth participation in the political, social, economic and cultural development of Spain within the global context. Its values are democratic and plural participation, social commitment, equal opportunities, dialogue and respect for diversity. Currently 76 youth organisations are members of the Spanish Youth Council.

www.cje.org

FLAJ

FLAJ – Foro Latino-Americano de Juventud – is the regional Youth Platform for Latin America. It brings together National Youth Councils, Networks and international youth organisations. It aims to be the body that represents, co-ordinates and promotes co-operation between Latin-American youth organisations. It does this in order to increase the capacity of young people to promote a society based on the values of democracy, human rights, justice and solidarity. It promotes the role of young people as key actors in achieving development and social justice.

www.flaj.org

ADYNE

The Face of the African Diaspora Youth living in Europe, ADYNE means "African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe" and it is a platform that connects organisations and individuals to collaborate and actively participate as global citizens to shape the lives of African Diaspora young people in Europe.

"African Diaspora" refers to the definition provided by the African Union Charter: "people of African origin living outside the continent, irrespective of their citizenship and nationality and who are willing to contribute to the development of the continent and the building of the African Union".

www.adyne.eu

EFIL

EFIL stands for European Federation for Intercultural Learning and it is the federation of AFS (American Field Service) organisations in Europe. AFS is an international, voluntary, non-governmental, non-profit organisation that provides intercultural learning opportunities to help people develop the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to create a more just and peaceful world. EFIL/AFS provides intercultural learning experiences and exchange programmes for students and adults, and operates in more than 50 countries in the world. The mission of EFIL/AFS is to contribute to peace and justice in a diverse world threatened by inequity and intolerance, by promoting intercultural understanding and sensitivity among European and other countries.

www.efil.afs.org

EEE-YFU

Youth for Understanding (YFU) exists to prepare young people for their responsibilities and opportunities in a changing, interdependent world. YFU is an international non-profit youth organisation providing educational exchanges programmes for young people from more than 50 countries worldwide. Its mission is to promote respect for cultural diversity, friendship among nations and opportunities for personal development through international home-stay exchange programmes. EEE-YFU (European Educational Exchanges – YFU) is the umbrella organisation for the national YFU organisations based in Europe. EEE-YFU mainly works by representing YFU's interests, at European level and organising educational activities for European YFU volunteers.

www.yfu.org

YEU

Youth for Exchange and Understanding (YEU) works to promote peace, understanding and co-operation among young people of the world, in a spirit of respect for human rights. YEU is represented in over 30 countries in Europe and Africa. The organisation is run mostly on a voluntary basis by young people for young people. Using a global education dimension and intercultural learning activities, YEU promotes a greater level of comprehension and active citizenship through the development of quality youth exchanges, seminars, conventions, meetings, study visits, training courses and the production of non-formal education resources.

www.yeu-international.org

















Togetherhness & Interaction to Foster Global Development

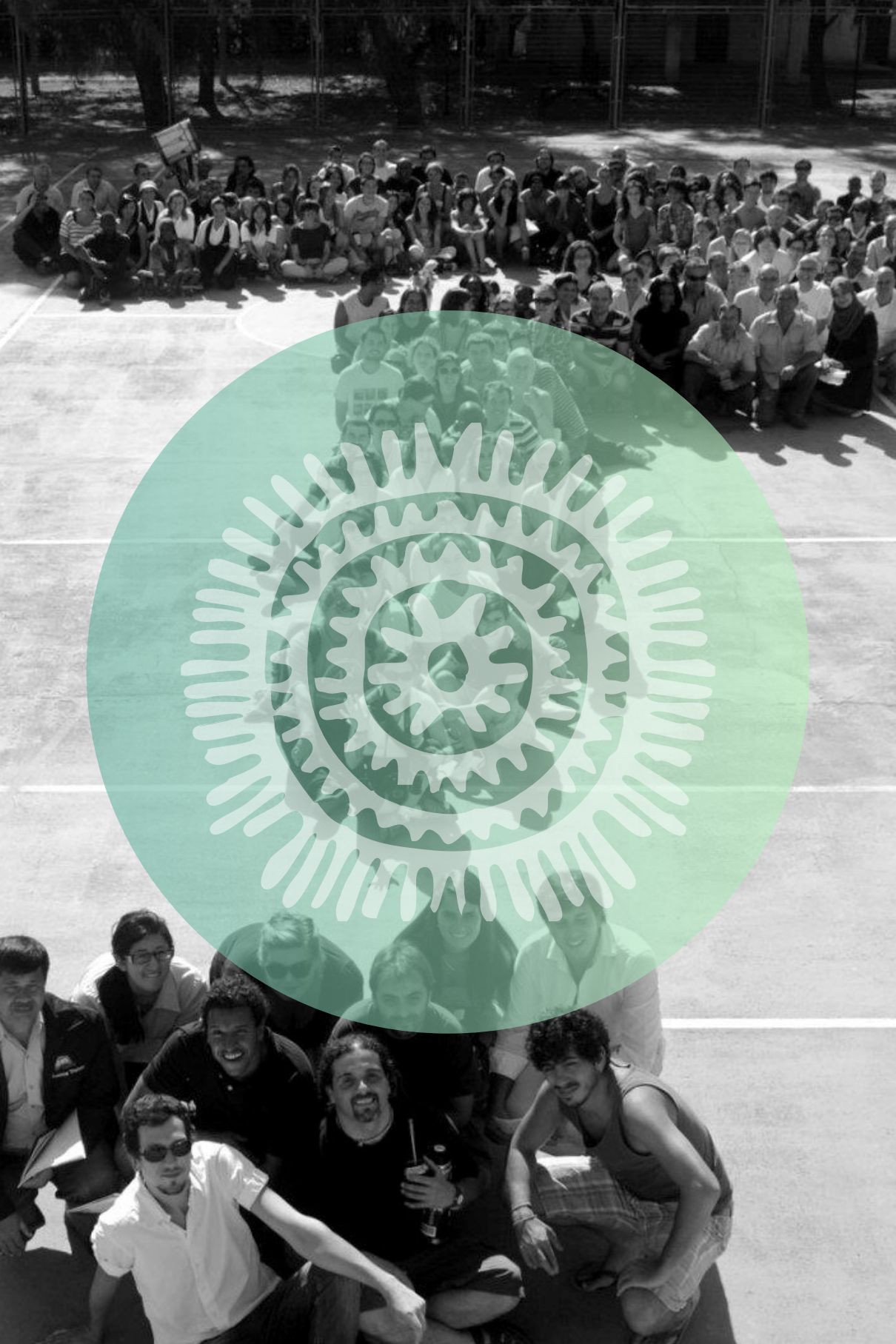
Historical Perspective

The history of the UYD is linked to what happened in the global education context in the last 30 years. The first UYD was created in 2000 as a reaction to the 3rd World Youth Forum in Braga in 1998, where young people expressed their needs to not only have United Nations spaces but others also where they can be together, learn and develop strategies together and have political discussions in a more non-formal education approach.

The time line, and points of crossing, of different processes and synergies in the youth field and global education field:

Year	Youth Field 	Universities 	Global Education 
1985	International Year of Youth "Participation, Development, Peace"		
1988	European public campaign on North–South Interdependence and Solidarity		
1989	The North–South Centre of the Council of Europe, officially the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity, was created and opened in Lisbon-Portugal, in 1990.		
1991	First World Youth Forum of the UN		
1995	World Programme of Action for Youth, adopted by the UN General Assembly		
1997	Global Education Charter (First GE reference document)		
1998	Third World Youth Forum of the UN Braga, Portugal Braga Youth Action Plan		
1999	Global Education Network (then formalised in 2000) First Global Education Week Global Education Website was created		

2000	First UYD - University on Youth and Development. - Spain	●
2001	Fourth UN World Youth Forum in Dakar, Senegal Panama Youth Festival	●
2002	Maastrich Global Education Congress	○
2003	Barcelona (Spain) Youth Festival FLAJ preparation to Barcelona Youth Festival + Uruguayan Youth Organisations National Debate	●
2004	First ICMYO (International Co-ordination Meeting of Youth Organisations) First UPC- University on Participation and Citizenship – Uruguay	●
2007	Africa-Europe Youth Summit	●
2008	Global Education Guidelines updated in 2010 and 2012	○
2009	First AUVD - African University on Youth and Development – Cape Verde Global Education online training courses: Human rights	●
2010	World Youth Conference (Mexico)	●
2011	International Year of Youth Dialogue and Mutual Understanding	●
2012	Global Education recommendation by the council of Europe (committee of Ministers of CoE)	○
2012	First Year of the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship Pilot experience North Africa Sub regional Seminar + TC Dept of the CoE+ League of Arab States+ Partners Meeting Global Education on line training courses: Intercultural dialogue Lisbon Global Education Congress Global Education and Youth Training of Trainers within the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship.	●
2013	Mediterranean University on youth and Global Citizenship Global Education online training courses: Democratic Citizenship	●



Together to Learn, Share & Understand what it means to be a Young Person in Africa, Asia, Europe or Latin America

174 participants from 49 different countries had the opportunity this year to experience the UYD. It may be for the first time or for the 10th time, but as soon as they reach the CEULAJ they feel that they are becoming part of a « bigger » community. During the week, they slowly perceive how regional and global co-operation are linked. Even if the gender balance was almost achieved (83 female participants – 91 male participants), the geographical diversity was less to see than in previous years. Europe was the most represented continent, then Africa. Asia and Latin America were under represented compared to previous years. Again this year and despite the efforts undertaken by the partners, numerous participants have been deprived of the right to attend the UYD because of prolonged visa procedures and bureaucracy. The NSC is working on reducing these obstacles, online-tools being one of the ideas investigated to open up the University to more young people.



Who were the participants of this 13th edition? They were between 20-30 years of age, (the average age being 24 years) the participants were professional or volunteer youth workers, trainers, youth leaders, young activists, educators, social workers, youth researchers, journalists, photographers, video-makers, and musicians. If some of them had already participated in previous editions, 77% were newcomers. Participants had in common an eagerness to share and learn about Youth Rights. The interaction between them, either during partner activities, Joint Programme sessions or informal times has a direct impact on their personal and professional life: togetherness has a stimulating and empowering effect that participants can take back home.

“Everybody asks me why I came from so far away for one week here. Simply because I really wanted to meet people like me, working on environment and global issues. Before to come to the UYD I was depressed because I had the impression I was fighting alone. I feel like I reloaded my battery now.”

Umedakhon Buzurukova (Tajikistan, participant in YEU activity)

“This kind of events are here to empower ourselves in order that when we go back home we have that energy and courage to stand up for our rights and take action. If nobody gives us the frame in which we can express ourselves, then we will create it.”

Emilia Ciovor (Romania, Logistical team)

“Now I feel there is something happening for youth.”

Nashwa Azzam (Egypt, participant in EFIL's activity)

“I'm linking a lot things at one time right now.”

Fareeda Atwant (Egypt, participant in EFIL's activity)

“Youth is less belligerent than in the past, less assertive today. The format they use to protest is less physical but more sophisticated and using social media. This kind of event is very refreshing. I love it here. I come every year. To see so many dedicated young people gives me inspiration for the next 365 days of the year, waiting for the next edition to happen.”

Concha Ortiz (Spain, Interpreter)

“We think that there is a change in the participants who are here because most of them in the beginning were not thinking too much about intercultural exchange. It would be interesting to follow-up and see if they are still working in this line after the UYD.”

Rebecca De Soigne García (Spain, trainer in CJE's activity)

How to understand each other? Huge efforts are made by the partners to make out of this UYD a safe intercultural learning experience for all. The working language of the UYD was mainly English in the partner activities and Spanish for CJE's activity. But for some official moments of the Joint Programme such as Opening Ceremony, Round Table and Closing Ceremony, interpretation in English and Spanish was helping reduce the language barriers.

“I have to think in Swedish. From Swedish then to English. You are making my brain work too much! I think you should give me the Nobel Prize of Thinking for this week here!”

Aissatou Dialo (Sweden, participant, ADYNE activity)

“When the speech is well articulated and the interpreters have good visibility on the speaker and a good sound quality, as interpreter you can really live through it and convey 99.9 % of emotions.”

Concha Ortiz and Anne Martin (Interpreter, Spain)

Together to Learn Co-operation, Partnership & Pooling Resources

The University exists thanks to the commitment of the same core partner organisations who put together their knowledge, experience, staff and volunteers. Each edition requires almost one year of preparation. Core and associated partners make huge efforts to make it happen, even this year in times of financial crisis.

“We made it smaller this year but we made it happen. The secret is to anticipate needs and constraints of partners. Continuous communication is very important.”

Andreia Henriques (Programme Manager - Youth Co-operation, NSC)

INJUVE kindly offers each year to the UYD an exceptional space (CEULAJ) with all appropriate logistics for youth activities. CEULAJ charges (at a preferential rate) board and lodging of participants, trainers, guest speakers and experts for the whole duration of the event and includes all facilities working rooms and facilities for activities, (even sport facilities for leisure time activities), basic equipment and materials.

All partners contribute to the political dimension of the UYD by suggesting and bringing experts, resource persons and guest speakers for the Opening ceremony, the Round Table and Closing Ceremony and by drafting the 'Final Declaration'.

The dedicated logistical team co-ordinated by NSC were responsible, like each year, for accommodation, dietary food requirements and special needs, plenary activities, partner's activities and meetings, visa support letters, travel arrangements for the 174 participants.

“I learnt how to be attentive to needs of everyone and keep smiling. This event was a personal and professional achievement.”

Sara Amaral (NSC, trainee in the Youth Co-operation Programme)

Ricardo Martins and David Silva (Logistical team) drove more than 7000kms of transfer between CEULAJ and Malaga airport or the Antequerra train station for the comfortable and highly appreciated pick-up service of the participants, trainers, staff and guest speakers.

Beyond crucial economies of scale and rationalisation of costs that youth organisations are used to deal with because of restricted budgets for their own day-to-day survival, it would be too simple to see the University as a cheap place to have a youth event. What keeps attracting « old » and « new » partners in this collective exercise is this unique opportunity that UYD offers all in the same place: networking, co-operation, partnership and a pool of resources. Very often, partners organise joint-sessions between each other or share the same experts. For example ADYNE had a joint session with YFJ working group about how to make national youth councils more inclusive and open to African Diaspora youth. CJE and EFIL invited Peter Matjasic (President of the YFJ) in their activities to debate about youth rights and explain the purpose and process of the Final Declaration. EEE-YFU invited Nik Paddison (YEU activity) and Victor Klabbers (NSC activity), both experts in online training courses, and Carmen Fischer (Joint Programme team), expert in advocacy policy to help them design their own future online training course about advocacy.

All the partners benefited from the UYD website and online community, (developed by the Joint Programme team), as online tools to prepare before and stay in contact after the event as a link between Sister Universities. Same goes with the Media team, (Diogo Andrade, Jaques Candelas, Lorena Santos Spulbeck and Antonio Palazuelos). Not all partners would have had internal resources and the chance to have their own activity documented if there was not a media team at their service. The Media team had also the mission to record every moment of the UYD to remind everyone of the great experience they had. They also produced teasers on youth rights, (to illustrate the Round Table discussion), and a short movie, (shown during the Closing ceremony), representing a message sent to the next event of the Network Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship: the University on Participation and Citizenship that will take place in February 2013 in Uruguay.

The press and communication officer of the CEULAJ worked in co-operation with Antonio Palazuelos, (Journalist and photographer – Media team), for the dissemination of press releases and visibility of the UYD.

Ubanda (the University Band) with its five musicians, (Rui Afonso, Portugal; Sébastien Cheppe, France, José Alegre, Portugal, Luis Lourenço, Portugal, and Pascal Gautier, France), contributed to the UYD by circulating music and its contagious energy. Each activity of the Joint Programme was introduced by music. Participants could learn and practice different instruments, percussion and drums for one week. Ubanda rehearsed with some of them for the public concert that was given in Molina on 21st of September.

Last but not least, the Joint Programme team, (Simona Mursec, Slovenia, Riccardo Guletta, Italy, Brais Fernandes, Spain, Carmen Fischer, Austria, and Nicolas Bruni, Uruguay), helped facilitate the different joint moments of the programme by supporting the daily implementation of partners guidelines and participants proposals and contributions. They also assisted in building bridges between the different activities, which allowed all to live and explore the potential of being together in this resourceful youth centre CEULAJ to the fullest.



The UYD: a Human Machine

Shared Governance & Responsibilities

The UYD is a youth-led, collective and participatory exercise, from the preparation, implementation through to evaluation phases. Partners have commitments and responsibilities towards the University. The call for partners is public and disseminated widely by the core partners. NSC collects the applications and the core partners assess them and make the selection of activities in early spring for the event taking place in autumn.

The main criteria for a partner activity to be selected are:

- // be a youth-led activity designed for young people between 18 and 35 years of age
- // be a contribution to the joint theme and Joint Programme and should serve the aims of the UYD (capacity building and youth empowerment)
- // have a Global or Interregional scope (i.e. Euro-Mediterranean, Afro-Asian, Euro-African, etc.) both in terms of content and origin of the participants

Activities organised in partnership between various organisations and resulting in partnerships and co-operation processes are highly encouraged since the University itself is a result of these kinds of synergies.

Partners are expected to build together the University and its Joint Programme and to actively take part in the preparatory process and meetings, contributing for example by proposing and mobilising guest speakers and resource persons for the joint sessions; organising or co-organising joint activities; proposing volunteers; contributing to the evaluation; and to the media and press coverage.

A first preparation meeting between the core and associated partners takes place usually in June and a second one just before the start of the UYD in September. During the UYD, three partners meetings take place on the spot to ensure the smooth running of the whole event and serve as check-points to update each other about content and logistics.

The evaluation meeting usually takes place two months after the UYD and again all the partners gather together to draw conclusions and plan the future edition of the University.

Financially, the UYD is organised around the principle of economy of scale, (reducing the overall costs by doing things together). It means that all partners are asked to contribute to the collective costs of the University bearing in mind the asymmetric financial capacities of each of the partners and relative to the size of the activities. Each partner is also responsible for the travel costs of the participants involved in their respective activities. The sharing out of financial resources is also discussed with transparency in the partners meetings.

Joint Programme: Collective Efforts

The Joint Programme is the cement that holds the bricks of the UYD house together. Without it, the University would be only a juxtaposition of parallel activities taking place simultaneously for different multicultural groups.

Joint Programme Team

In such a space where a lot of parallel activities take place gathering people from different cultural and organisational backgrounds, there is a need to create a sense of being together, doing something together, of inter-acting. To this purpose, partners decided to identify a Joint Programme team composed of five people dedicated to give special attention, time and energy to the conceptualisation of the Joint Programme sessions, following the partners guidelines.

“Unfortunately things don’t happen on their own. Just to have a physical space doesn’t mean that you will have contact or sharing or things happening. Or you will have it but it will happen according to the usual patterns which means that groups that already stick together will continue to stick together.”

Simona Mursec (Slovenia, Joint Programme co-ordinator)

The Joint Programme team was composed of trainers and facilitators with multifaceted competencies. They were experienced in theatre, music, plastic arts, sports, dance and games and other sorts of cultural expressions, ready to help the participants in putting into action their ideas and proposals for the joint social programme. The key criteria in the composition of the team was that it had to be multicultural and representative of the other Universities of the network. All the team members had attended the UYD before and already had an idea of how it is structured and how it works. The team started to work intensively on the Joint Programme two months before the opening of the University. On spot, the Joint Programme team worked in close co-operation with the Media team and Ubanda. For a better articulation between Joint Programme activities and partners' activities, the Joint Programme co-ordinator was invited to participate in all partners meetings, (preparation and evaluation meetings included).

Through the Joint Programme, the 13th University offered an informal social space and great moments of sharing, giving, receiving, transforming, discovering, creating and re-creating. It created chances for the participants to freely share cultural expressions and diverse experiences related to youth rights.

Here are some elements and advice from the Joint Programme team to consider when thinking of a Joint Programme:

“How do we see learning? Where does it happen and how do we want to learn? In partners activities? In joint programme activities? We try to find a balance.”

Nicolas Bruni (Uruguay, Joint Programme team)

“You need to have an intercultural and inclusive approach”

Riccardo Gullea (Italy, Joint Programme team)

“Usually participants do not dare to share more than what they are asked for. It's your right as participant. But then it is also your duty to learn. You have to challenge yourself to open up, share and learn. You have to make the first step even if the Joint Programme team thinks of all details, in the end, your learning is only in your hands”

Carmen Fischer (Austria, Joint Programme team)

Joint Programme Special Moments

For this 13th edition of the UYD, participants found themselves gathered around the theme « Youth Rights » and the Joint Programme was meant to create spaces to share different realities, perceptions and proposals about Youth Rights and the access of young people to them. The thematic approach of the Joint Programme team was to work on one topic per day:

// Welcome Evening

// Official Opening and Youth Rights Expo Evening

// « Youth Rights through Sports and Games »

// « Youth Rights through Creative Expression »

// « Youth Rights and the Local Community »

// « Youth Rights through dance and music »

// Conclusions and Closing

The methodological approach was inspired by non-formal education principles such as: inter-active participation, learner-centred, safe intercultural learning environment, critical thinking and learning. The Joint Programme combined this year plenary spaces and face-to-face spaces in an ideal way.

The Welcome Evening on 16th September was conceived by the Joint Programme team as a light and smooth event for all participants to recover from long travelling hours, get to know each other and their trainers team. From this moment on, the CEULAJ played its role of what might be called 'a space airlock': out of time, out of space, floating somewhere in the Network Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship galaxy between Europe, Africa and Latin America.

The official Opening Ceremony took place on 17th September, morning. After the welcoming words of Andreia Henriques (Programme Manager - Youth Co-operation, NSC) and the presentation of the Joint Programme team and media team, representatives of the core partners shared their views about Global Youth Work and Youth Rights with the participants :

// NSC CoE – “In the NSC, we consider this University as a key element for the achievement of our mission.” NSC CoE - Jean-Marie Heydt (Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee)

// INJUVE/CEULAJ – “Youth rights are not different of the rights we had in the past: education, health, culture, work, capacity to discover... Public authorities have to work hard today to ensure maintaining these rights.” Director of the CEULAJ, Francisco Javier Berlanga in representation of Ruben Urosa (Director of INJUVE)

// European Youth Forum (YFJ) – “When we talk about youth rights, we talk about youth autonomy and access of young people to their rights. Young people have the right to be recognised as a valid and specific age group, with specific needs. We need to be supported and heard. Your message here must be heard.” Peter Matjasic (President)

// Forum Latinoamericano de Juventud (FLAJ) – “We can continue to contribute to such platforms.” Pamela Obando

// Consejo de la Juventud de Espana (CJE) – “Participation is a value. We have to fight to maintain our structures and participation of young people today. We have to defend youth rights. We hope to learn it here from other continents.” Joan Conca Domènech (Board member in charge of International relations)

The media team delivered then short movies as appetisers of partners activities and presented the online community of the UYD aiming to create curiosity and bridges between the nine parallel activities under the umbrella of the Joint Theme « Youth Rights ». A video message from the African University on Youth and Development (the Sister University in Cape Verde) was also displayed to connect the UYD to the AYUD (that took place two months before).

To capture memory of this special moment of opening a new edition of the University, ERYICA³ took a group picture with all the participants and guest speakers. This picture was included in their campaign and photo exhibition « Youth Information Right Now » that circulated around Europe at the end of 2012.

(3) The European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA) is an independent European organisation, composed of national youth information co-ordination bodies and networks. It aims to develop, support and promote quality generalist youth information policy and practice at all levels, in order to meet the information needs of young people in Europe and to apply the principles of the European Youth Information Charter. ERYICA participated for the first time in the University on Youth and Development, where they held their campaign “Information Right Now” evaluation meeting to:

// undergo a mid-campaign evaluation

// plan its next steps and its possible follow-up, paying special attention to the preparation of the presentation of the Campaign at the Council of Europe « Conference of Ministers in Charge of Youth » that took place in St. Petersburg (Russian Federation) a few days after the UYD. www.informationrightnow.eu.

The Opening Ceremony ended with the Celebration of the 20th anniversary of the CEULAJ. The staff of the CEULAJ prepared specially for this occasion a birthday cake and were very proud to share it with the 200 people gathered in the Plenary room. The live music of Ubanda helped keep the flow, energy and the timing of the whole Opening Ceremony.

The Youth Expo evening conceptualised by the Joint Programme team was a great opportunity for the participants to present their background organisation and learn about other youth initiatives in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The Thematic Days featured by the talented Joint Programme team « Youth Rights through Sports and Games », « Youth Rights through Creative Expression », « Youth Rights and the Local Community » or « Youth Rights through Dance and Music » were meant to be creative, informal, inclusive and interactive ways to speak about youth rights⁴. These were structured but open moments where participants could join in freely and feel comfortable to share and learn. Among all these breathing moments between partners activities and joint sessions, the most vibrant one was the performance of the UYD concert in the Atenas Square of Mollina. After a UYD Parade through the village, Ubanda and local flamenco musicians played for the local community. Then, spontaneously Gisele Sayangi, David Silva, Emilia Ciovor and Diaby Abdourahamane took the stage and offered respectively a traditional African song, a fado, a traditional Romanian song and a slam session. Simply a moment of grace!

In the UYD tradition, the Round Table (19th of September) is the main moment in the programme where participants can reflect together on the Joint Theme, get a general understanding of it and give it a global perspective. This mid-term exercise poses two challenges: to have balanced geographical, political and civil society representation on one side and to involve the participants in the discussion on the other side. The methodology chosen by the Joint Programme team was to count on the expertise of the guest speakers to give constructive insights and on the creative expression and testimonies of participants to share their personal views about youth rights. The discussion between guest speakers and participants was moderated and facilitated by Simona Mursec (Joint Programme coordinator) and was punctuated by the live music of Ubanda and short trailers (videos) realised by the Media team focusing on personal stories of participants whose rights have been denied.

Silvia Ramirez from Iberoamerican Youth Organization (OIJ) shortly explained how the Iberoamerican Convention on Youth Rights was created: « The Iberoamerican Convention on Youth Rights represents the first multi-governmental declaration in the world in this field, a fundamental instrument to protect Youth Rights ». Ramirez emphasised that more recognition needs to be given to youth participation in Latin America, not only in public policies but also outside political participation:

(4) Again here ERYICA contributed to the Joint Programme by proposing an unusual activity to UYD participants: « Youth Rights at the Pool », a sort of treasure hunt in the swimming pool of CEULAJ for them to discover more about youth rights and right to information.

“We deal with a large youth population, in many cases in vulnerable situations and many young people do not know their rights and the instruments that they can use to access them. The lack of quality education conditions and the lack of youth information produce unawareness among youth regarding the effective accomplishment of their rights. Thus, there are many social prejudices related to youth and many youth policies are elaborated without the participation of young people.”

Freaselam Belay from the African Union Commission (AUC) shortly introduced the African Youth Charter and how youth organisations pushed for this instrument: « The African Youth Charter is the first mechanism to protect rights of the African young people and gives a standard, so the African youth can realise what their rights are. [...] Youth Rights are not really present in many African governments' agenda so AUC is fostering them through programmes such as youth development studies in African Universities ». Belay also expressed that at the youth level, the AUC is committed to improve the co-operation between state actors and youth councils as well as to create an enforcement mechanism of the African Youth Charter to make it even more effective.

Mourad Mahidi from the European Youth Forum exposed that no such instruments exist for the moment in Europe but that there is a crucial need for a Youth Rights Convention where European young people could find their rights and that would give them legitimacy to push governments for actions to secure these rights. According to his speech:

“Autonomy of young people is not automatic anymore [...] We used to have a needs-based approach and now we need to shift to a rights-based approach.”

To adopt a rights-based approach means recognising that young people are entitled to a certain standard of well-being and that they are not only beneficiaries, but active rights-holders. For Mahidi, education and participation of young people are key elements to empower them to claim their own rights.

The Closing Ceremony on 22nd of September was designed by the Joint Programme team in the image of the UYD itself: dynamic and creative. It was brilliantly moderated by the Joint Programme team. Partners were invited to present the issues, discussions and outcomes of their activities by the mean of videos or performances. This moment was also a happy time of celebration of the first anniversary of the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship. At this occasion and in order to already prepare the next event of the Network, a message box with personal notes from the UYD participants and Molina villagers was sealed and sent to the 10th University on Participation and Citizenship that will take place in February 2013.

The Conclusions of the UYD were revealed solemnly through the Final Declaration « Grant Young People the Rights that fit their Duties ».

As a good-bye present, the Media Team showed its last movie of the week: a presentation of the 13th edition of the UYD through the eyes of a participant. The music and rhythms of Ubanda helped to fight against the rising sadness. After one week of living, sharing, learning together, the participants left the University with the sense of accomplishment, new energy and motivation, and already thinking of coming back!

Partners Activities: Convergent Efforts

In the UYD, each partner runs an activity independently linked to the Joint Theme and at the same time shares common premises and common sessions of the Joint Programme.

Global Education and Youth Training for Trainers – NSC-CoE and Network of Universities

16th - 23rd September 2012

The North-South Centre of the Council of Europe together with the partners of the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship organised a training of trainers for 25 participants from 23 different countries. The course was based on the previous experiences of the Global Education⁵ (GE) online training courses and several editions of the Global Youth Work Training Course. It was designed for actual or future participants, trainers and experts of the different Universities of the network.

The training had two main aims:

// to empower young people to further support the implementation of the Global Education online training courses of the Global Education Programme of the NSC-CoE

// to develop competencies of participants that are or will be actively involved in the implementation of the different Universities

The team was composed by four experienced and international trainers from Europe, Africa and Latin America :

// Victor Klabbers, Kenya/The Netherlands

// Fernando Traversa, Uruguay

// Federica Cicala, Italy

// and Delphine Konda, Belgium/Cameroon.

They developed together a programme that tackled several elements such as Global Education (concept and methodology) and a meta reflection about the UYD. The team was also invited to the 2ndnd European Congress of Global Education in Lisbon to

(5) The North South Centre uses the following definition for Global Education as an umbrella term, this definition is also used in the Maastricht Global Education Declaration (adopted in 2002): « *It is an education that opens people's eyes and minds to the realities of the globalised world and awakens them to bring about a world of greater justice, equity and Human Rights for all. It is understood to encompass development education, human rights education, education for sustainability, education for peace and conflict prevention and intercultural education; being the global dimension of education for citizenship.* »

present the Network Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship as best practice for Global Education. They brought to a higher institutional level the recommendations of the participants of this training course about how to develop this network.

“« To be a trainer is not only to multiply to the ones down you but also to the ones upper you. It requires advocacy skills. »”

Miguel Silva (Portugal, NSC Global Education Programme Manager)

Which youth rights did you touch ?

“« The right to be healthy, the right to be educated about sexuality, the right to make informed decisions. »”

Anush Hayrapetyan (Armenia, participant)

4th Youth Work Development Working Group Meeting : Global Youth Work – YFJ
20th - 22nd September 2012

The main objectives of the Final Youth Work Development Working Group meeting were to :

// allow for 10 participants of the Youth Work Development Working Group members from 8 different countries to get an insight into global youth work ;

// find synergies between European Youth Work development and regional/Global Youth Work Development ;

// allow for the Working Group to contribute to the sustainability of regional platforms ;

// finalise tasks they have worked on ;

// build recommendations for a future Youth Work Development Working Group.

By locating this Final Youth Work Development Working Group in the UYD, exceptional environment provided by the yearly gathering, an ensemble of youth representatives from organisations from all over the world, the Working Group was able to receive input from these international actors and thereby assess how the YFJ can strengthen its global youth work role.

The Youth Work Development Working Group prepared in the UYD a concept note on how to create a National Youth Council. A joint-session with ADYNE helped the members of the Youth Work Development Working Group to think about how to make National Youth Councils more open to African Diaspora Youth and more inclusive in general.

Which youth rights did you touch?

“« We approached the right to participation when we elaborated the concept note on how to establish a National Youth Council. »”

Eugeni Masgrau (Spain, participant)

CJE's International Training School - « Youth Rights in Action » - CJE 16th - 23rd September 2012

The CJE's International Training School « Youth Rights in Action » is meant as a space for learning and exchange for the youth member organisations of the CJE and dedicated to the international youth co-operation field. This year the course was offering information and training on the Youth in Action Programme : the cycle of a project and the actions of the programme that better fit in the youth organisations aims and needs. It was addressed to 16 young people from CJE's member organisations interested to start working internationally on European programmes such as Youth In Action.

Although the main subject was the Youth in Action Programme, the three trainers (Julio López Garbayo, Rebecca De Soignie García and Simone Lucchi, Spain) introduced also to the participants the concept of Global Youth Work. The Youth Rights topic was also analysed in terms of feeling what youth rights might be suffering some sort of decline or even eradication because of the crisis. The participants also discovered the Youth Rights Convention in Iberoamerica as an achievement for young people in that region and opened the debate if in Europe there should be done something similar.

Which youth rights did you touch ?

“«We worked on youth rights in general and on youth participation more specifically. We wanted to show to our participants that the Youth in Action programme is a powerful tool to fight for youth rights and start co-operating and networking for them.»”

Rebecca De Soignie García (Spain, trainer)

« Building from within : a seminar for youth leaders of the African Diaspora living in Europe - » ADYNE

16th - 23rd September 2012

One of the main tasks of ADYNE is to provide institutions and policy makers with information about the realities and challenges faced by African Diaspora youth living in Europe. ADYNE has noticed that almost none of the existing national youth councils in Europe have African Diaspora youth organisations represented in their structures.

The objectives of this seminar were to enable the 29 participants from 15 different European countries to:

// develop a better understanding of the economic, social and political situations and identify the main challenges faced by young people of the African Diaspora living in Europe today ;

// empower Africa youth Diaspora to represent their interests and current challenges (such as integration, identify conflict, discrimination, employment, education, lack of youth policies and involvement in the decision-making process) ;

// create a space for dialogue between youth organisations representing local and regional Africa youth Diaspora and national youth councils ;

// to acquire know-how on concepts and challenges of youth work, youth policies, migration and integration policies and institutions relevant for the Africa Diaspora youth and for the Africa- Europe youth co-operation process ;

// promote co-operation between Africa Diaspora youth organisations and organisations working with Diasporas in general, in order to identify a common agenda and reduce duplication of efforts.

Together with the YFJ Youth Work Development Working Group, the participants discussed the role and the current challenges of youth organisations, youth networks and National Youth Councils in this process. The activity encouraged the participants to develop relevant strategies to enforce and promote youth rights and inclusion. At the end of the seminar, each participant drew up action plans to foster youth participation in their communities and societies, and strengthen co-operation at local and national levels. The seminar was also an important tool to renew, enlarge and consolidate the network of youth leaders from the African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe –ADYNE.

Which youth rights did you touch ?

“«The topic of youth rights in general was addressed : getting a better understanding of what youth rights are, compared to Human Rights. »”

Gloria Ntzila (Greece, trainer)

“«Citizenship comes with rights. When you are an immigrant in Portugal, it takes 6 years to get the citizenship. 6 years of ignorance of your rights.»”

Diaby Abdourahamane (Portugal, participant)

“«In Europe, young people grow up with a culture of rights. It is hard to understand for us, coming from African societies where parents don't even allow you to talk in the family. We live under the authority of the family, school or police for 25 years. In this context, it is hard to think about youth rights.»”

Aissatou Diallo (Sweden, participant)

**YOU(th) contribute(s) to building civil society to face global challenge – EFIL
16th - 23rd September 2012**

This activity organised by EFIL, the European Federation for Intercultural Learning gathered 14 participants from 9 different countries. The programme of the seminar linked project management and involvement in civil society. The overall aim of the seminar was to enable participants to multiply the knowledge of becoming active and responsible citizens by implementing future projects.

The objectives of this seminar were to:

- // exchange best practice examples of youth projects from different cultural contexts
- // define what youth rights are and how they are viewed in different cultural contexts
- // reflect on the presence of youth rights in EFIL / AFS context
- // discuss concrete tools on basic project management
- // offer follow-up and develop advanced project management skills for the more experienced
- // promote youth rights through project work
- // explore possibilities for future projects

The activity supported participants who have been involved in project work and want to extend their knowledge and understanding of project management and at the same time have an interest in youth rights. The seminar linked therefore practical elements of project management with content elements related to youth rights. The idea was to enable participants to promote youth rights in their national organisations through project work. In the field of youth rights, the seminar focused not only on youth rights but also on the responsibility of young people in our society.

Putting into action the learning by doing method, the participants developed small projects inside the UYD : they were hanging up quotes of important people in history about youth rights in different public spaces such as, “« The most important thing that parents can teach their children is how to get along without them.” » (Frank A. Clark). and also started two silent discussions on worn t-shirts, the discussions were based on two messages such as « *I don't need youth rights* » or « *We talk about youth rights. Why not responsibilities?* ». After the seminar, participants developed citizenship projects in their organisations.

Which youth rights did you touch ?

“« In Egypt, I have never heard about youth rights. We have to think of women rights first or children's rights first. I am really not aware. In Egypt, I am a little girl, a daughter. I graduate and get married. I become a married woman or a working woman. We don't have this transition period between childhood and adulthood. Youth doesn't exist. Therefore it is hard to think of youth rights.»”

Fareeda Atwan (Egypt, participant)

“«The end of youth is when you live your life without any safety net. When you take 100% responsibilities. To me, only from this moment, a young person becomes an adult. For the right to employment, we have a saying in Hungary : If you want to be hired, you must be a fresh graduate with a 5 year work experience.»”

Gabor Csikos (Hungary, participant)

“«Do you want more rights ? Take responsibilities!»”

Anders Belling (Denmark, trainer)

“«Non- Fformal Education education at the moment is rather a privilege than a right because not all young people have access to it. It has a lot to do with awareness raising and advocacy.»”

Inga Menke (Belgium, trainer)

eeeLearning for Advocacy – EEE-YFU
19th - 23rd September 2012

The project eeeLearning for Advocacy will take place during the second semester of 2012. It will develop an e-learning course through several project meetings and will aim to support the capacity of youth organisations to develop competencies among volunteers to promote youth policy. Its specific objectives will be to:

// create a sustainable and highly adaptable e-learning training course on advocacy in the youth field;

// provide a structured way for new volunteer representatives to learn together and from one another over distance;

// strengthen co-operation between EEE-YFU and other international youth NGOs working with volunteer representatives;

// contribute to the development of new and innovative ways of using Non Formal Education in the youth field.

The project group had a meeting in the framework of the University on Youth and Development during 4 days, including 5 participants from 5 different countries. The meeting aimed to define the content for the online training course and included not only practical work to further develop the eeeLearning for Advocacy course but also contained several days of learning about youth rights, the various existing policy instruments, as well as exploring gaps and current challenges.

Which youth rights did you touch ?

“«E-learning is still not very well known in Non Formal Education. It is mainly used in formal education. The right to participation and mobility is something we try to develop. Travelling is hard (visa) and costly and therefore, we are trying to create an online tool that doesn't require all these elements. Having an e-learning course makes possible for everybody to participate. When you attend United Nations Alliance of Civilisations meetings, you meet Queens and Kings. You need to be trained on how to speak in such circles. Through online training courses on advocacy, we want to raise more awareness on youth rights in general. »”

Lina Kirjazovaite (Lithuania, trainer)

« Green Leaders » Training Course – YEU International 15th to 23rd of September 2012

The main aim of the project « Green Leaders – active youth participation versus global environmental and climate change » is a 2 year project focused on the theme : sustainable development – how to reduce the environmental impact in youth organisations everyday management and youth management as a tool to combat climate change. During 2 years, the project will be (composed of different activities such as training courses, job shadowing, seminar, networking building activities and online activities will be implemented within the corporation of partners).

The first training course of the Green Leaders « Sustainability – Getting Started ! » was held during the UYD. The aim of this training course was to encourage the 22 participants from 7 different countries to develop their own understanding of sustainable development and their own understanding of environmental issues that affect them on a very daily basis. The training course focused on rights of young people and organisations to have an access to information about sustainable environment and role of youth organisations in the advocacy process.

The participants had a practical workshop on recycling and another one in organic grape picking with a wine producer of the village of Mollina. They discovered good practices on how to reduce environmental impact at personal, organisational and policy levels. A handbook with background information and guidelines on how to reduce environmental impact of youth organisations and youth events was developed and shared in the UYD community. After the UYD and within the next 2 years, participants have to implement informative sessions or workshops about this issue within their local communities.

Which youth rights did you touch ?

“« We had a specific session on participation linked to the concept of youth work. What is youth participation in our societies today ? Where are young people in these sustainable issues ? What are we in our communities ? What can we do ? How can we do it ? In a more indirect way, by looking at environmental issues, we were also looking at youth rights in terms of young people's right to healthy life and to live in a clean environment.» ”

Nik Paddison (Montenegro, trainer)

Meeting of the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship 20th of September

The University on Youth and Development – Spain, the University of Participation and Citizenship – Uruguay and the African University on Youth and Development – Cape Verde have been providing an exceptional space for young people and youth organisations around the world to meet, debate, build their capacity and co-operate on youth policy related issues.

Committed to further strengthen the interregional and global youth co-operation and the impacts of its activities, the partners engaged in this network decided to develop a coherent and articulated system for the Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship.

The Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship celebrated during the 13thth UYD its first anniversary. The partners (ADYNE, Cape Verdian Youth Federation, CNJ, CJE, FLAJ, NSC, YFJ, YMCA) of this network gathered for a strategic meeting to:

// update each other and assess the work developed between 2011 and 2012;

// to plan the next steps (e.g Mediterranean University, calendar and Joint Theme for 2013);

// to think of the network tools to be developed (follow-up activities, Training for Trainers, online platforms such as the UYD Community and the website, e-learning opportunities).



Achievements and Collective Memories

Final Declaration : « Grant Young People the Rights that fit their Duties »

Each UYD closes with a Final Declaration on behalf of all partners . To have such an outcome and a call for concrete actions is used by the partners and other youth organisations as a political document for advocacy.

The Final Declaration is addressed to governments and institutions. As the topic of this year was « Youth Rights », this Final Declaration specifically emphasises the need to guarantee young people's access to their rights, these rights fitting their duties and ensuring their personal development and contribution to society.

The preparation of the Final Declaration reflects the will of the partners to include participants in this exercise. The partners agreed on a first draft version and then they opened a consultation phase where participants could come up with suggestions and amendments. An optional session to contribute to the drafting of the Final Declaration was facilitated by the Joint Programme team. The issues and recommendations made took into account the debates held in the UPC and AUYP. Drafting such a political document was for a small but interested group of participants who took part in this a learning by doing opportunity on how to make advocacy.

The Final Declaration was read during the Closing ceremony of the UYD. As planned by the partners, it was also shared later as a background document for the facilitators of the Youth Event « Young people's access to rights: development of innovative youth policies » organised by the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth, the European Youth Forum and the National Youth Council of Russia (held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, 22-23rd September 2012 prior to the 9th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth). Peter Matjasic (President of the European Youth Forum) mentioned the Final Declaration in his intervention in the Ministerial Conference. The declaration has been shared with relevant institutions such as the United Nations.

G-LOCAL: Going Local & Reaching Out to Local Community

This year the UYD partners decided to open up the University and to reach out the local community of the village where CEULAJ is located : Mollina. CEULAJ constitutes one of the largest and best-equipped venue to organise youth events : plenary rooms, working rooms, cafeteria, accommodation, sports facilities, gardens. The UYD is a small world in itself and the temptation is high to stay then for a whole week in a secure but closed environment. Yet, it would be against one of the UYD principles (Global Citizenship) not to have any kind of interaction with the local community of Mollina.

“«It was really interesting to compare Mollina, the village, with my own context.»”

Mostafa Abbas (Egypt, participant in NSC's activity)

More than in the past, the partners put extra effort in this direction and one person of the Joint Programme team (Brais Fernandes, Spain) was exclusively dedicated to develop sustainable links with the 4000 inhabitants living in the village of Mollina. Brais Fernandes made contacts with the Municipality, the Secondary School, the Wine and Olive Co-operative, local organisations and local groups of musicians.

“«It would mean something to have even a training course organised by UYD participants for the local youth of Mollina. I see a big potential in trying to strengthen this link between the UYD and the local community. There was willingness from both sides. I received a lot of smiles. It makes everything easier and you keep motivation this way.»”

Brais Fernandes (Spain, Joint Programme team)

Among the innovations of this year towards reaching out to the local community of Mollina, the field visits of the Olive and Wine co-operative was highly appreciated by the UYD participants . This The Wine co-operative visit was proposed as an option in the free afternoon in the middle of the week. The participants could learn about the process of wine-making and even taste different sorts of wine.

Another nice initiative coming spontaneously from some UYD participants (YEU activity) was to help a green wine producer of Mollina for the wine grape picking. It was harvest time in Mollina.

“«It was very well perceived by the local community that we went wine picking. It was great to dedicate four hours of our programme for it. Definitely we encourage other groups to reach out the local community.»”

Nik Paddison (Montenegro, trainer in YEU activity)

The biggest and most visible result of this openness to the local community was the Parade and Concert prepared by the Joint Programme team and performed by Ubanda and some UYD participants on Atenas Square of Mollina on the evening of 21stst of September. This event was a real co-construction between the Municipality that gave its agreement for the UYD to use the biggest public square of the village and invited local flamenco guests and the UYD that brought, in addition to Ubanda, a performance of recycled music instruments, percussion and drums, African dances, traditional European folk dances, short theatre performances and songs. This event was a big success and the Municipality of Mollina is already expecting from the 14thth UYD a similar concert for 27thth of September 2013. Book the date !



The Network of the Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship: « A Conversation Between Continents » (AUYD's movie title)

Inspired by the UYD, the University on Participation and Citizenship (UPC) emerged in 2004 as the initiative of the Youth Forum of Uruguay and the YMCA of Montevideo with the support from the Latin American and Caribbean Alliance of YMCAs/YMCA (LACA) and the Youth Council of Spain (CJE). The African University on Youth and Development was born in 2009. It was established as a result of a partnership between the North-South Centre, the Cape Verde Youth Federation and the National Youth Council of Portugal.

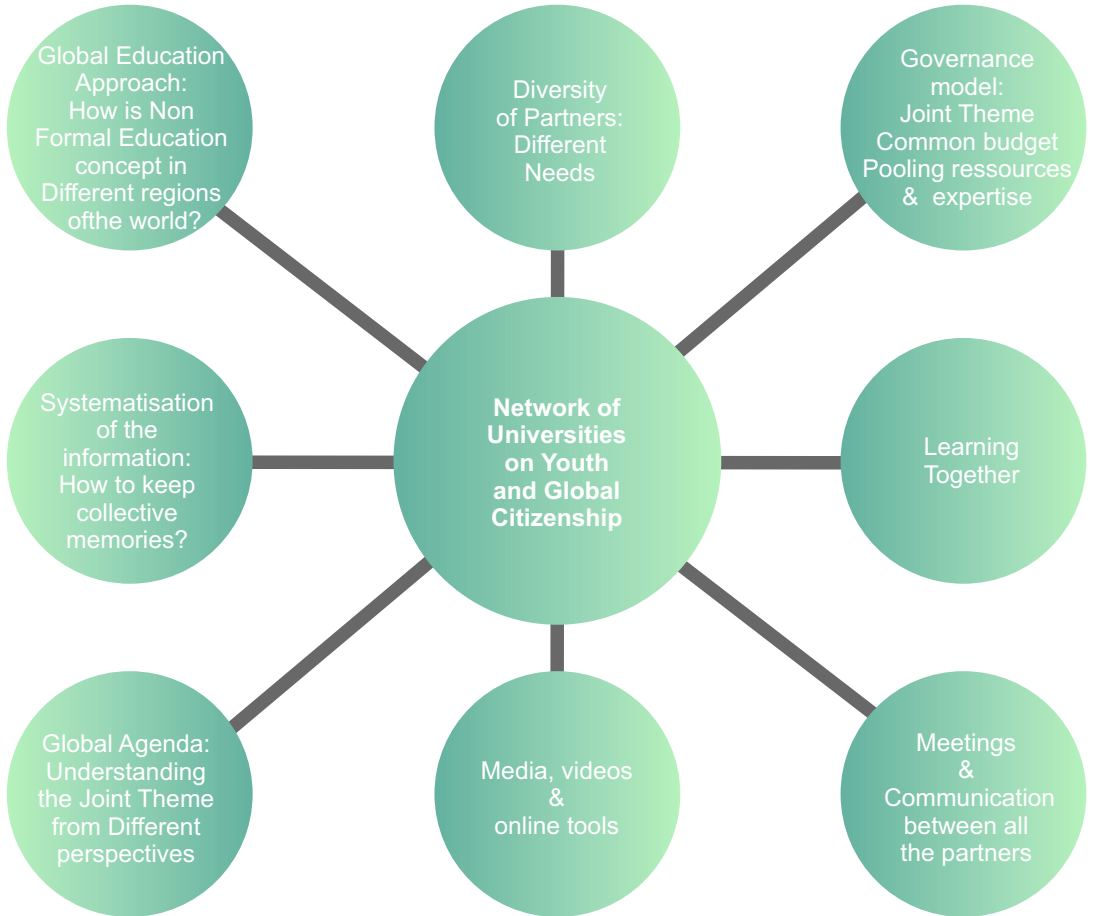
The Universities aim to network, build together and to achieve personal and social change. The work that has been developed in Mollina since 2000, in Uruguay since 2004 and in Cape Verde since 2009 took a step further in 2011 in CEULAJ with the announcement during the 12thth UYD of the launching of the process to create a Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship. This network aims to co-ordinate regional co-operation processes and the global youth movement, to promote learning opportunities and participation for the development of competencies of active global citizenship. The Network celebrated during the 13thth edition of UYD its first anniversary.

During one year, three different Universities took place on three different continents but having the same Joint Theme : - « Youth Rights » as go-between the UPC in March 2012 in Uruguay, the AUYD in July 2012 in Cape Verde and the UYD in September 2012 in Spain. The same concept was seen through the lens of different cultural perspectives. The challenge was to avoid a repetitive exercise and to ensure continuation and « conversations » between these three events. UPC's outcomes were shared in AUYD, and the AUYD produced a video message sent to the UYD.

As each University naturally feeds and inspires each other, the partners of the Network decided to work together on a strategy to approach Joint Theme deeper, to invest in training for potential trainers and Joint programme team members, to further develop multilingual online tools as bridges between the Universities and to harvest the content discussions in each University by systematising information and reports.

The next step for the Network will be the creation in 2013 of a Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship. A pilot experience of this University was held in Tunisia in December 2012 and a full version is expected for 2013 Summer.

Constellation of the Network:





Evaluation and Food for Thought

In the UYD, even the evaluation is a collective exercise. The written evaluation form was drafted on the spot by the partners. Each partner was also in charge of distributing it in their own activity and to collect it from their participants. The NSC analysed then the collected evaluation forms. The results of the evaluation were presented during the Evaluation Meeting of the UYD that took place end of November 2012 where all the partners of this 13th edition participated (held in the framework of the General Assembly of YFJ). In order to secure the good practice of having a Joint Programme team member, the Co-ordinator, Simona Mursec, was also invited to bring the internal evaluation report of the Joint Programme team to the attention of the partners. In addition to the partners, the Joint Programme team could make proposals and recommendations for the 14th edition of the UYD. According to them, two innovations of the 13th edition to keep are the concept of thematic days with different ways of expression and reaching out the local community.

The overall evaluation of the University is very positive : 98% of the participants would recommend the UYD to others and 61 % declared that the UYD changed their attitude towards Youth Rights. Clearly from the analysis of the evaluation questionnaires, the UYD had already an impact on the personal and professional life of participants. They state that they have now more understanding about the concept of youth rights at European and global level and are more willing to further develop new projects on this topic. During the UYD, they received detailed information about legal instruments on Youth Rights and learnt how to be creative with the youth rights topic. They declare that they became aware of Youth Rights and will actively promote or protect them by developing local youth projects on Youth Rights.

During the evaluation meeting and when shaping the future editions of the UYD, the partners discussed which elements to keep or to improve:

- // Joint Programme team with a background of UYD or other Universities of the Network
- // Intercultural and « glo-cal » approach
- // Strong political agenda but with a pedagogical approach to make the political and formal moments of the UYD more relevant for participants
- // Interpretation facilities to break down language barriers
- // More involvement of participants in the Final Declaration
- // Team building for trainers and pedagogical staff of the partners activities to foster joint sessions and links between them

Another element of the UYD that partners and participants called for was the reinforcement of Unicolgy policy in the next editions. Unicolgy is the University's contribution to raising awareness about environmental issues. This policy emerged in 2008 during the 9th edition and was aiming at encouraging participants of the UYD to value the environment, to acknowledge the link and interdependence between consumption and natural resources and to be proactive in preserving the environment. Yet, four years later, partners and participants expressed the need to see the Unicolgy policy boosted.

The evaluation forms are full of suggestions to make the UYD more sustainable such as : less plastic bottles and more use of the UYD cups,⁶ smaller food portions and vegetarian meals as mainstream meal, a more digital UYD for less paper consumption and an enhanced online platform.

“It would be interesting to make a research on how much materials each group is using. We all should use less flip-charts and post-its. We, trainers of sustainability, think that we can change the world with post-its and flip-charts. Still there is the belief in non-formal education and youth work, that if a room is not fully decorated with flip-charts and post-its, you haven't worked properly with your group of participants. We all have to change our way of working and use less paper!”

Mathieu Soete (Belgium, trainer, YEU activity)

As concluding words and guideline to keep when exploring the future of the UYD, let's follow the Global Trainers' recommendations (NSC activity):

REMEMBER ABOUT THE DREAM!



(6) On arrival, each one received THE official cup of the University. Participants could personalise it, decorate it, colour it. The cup was needed for coffee, tea and water consumption during coffee-breaks and informal times.

Annexe 1 The Joint Programme

13th University on Youth and Development – Youth Rights, Mollina, Spain 16 - 23 September 2012

Sunday 16	Monday 17	Tuesday 18	Wednesday 19	Thursday 20	Friday 21	Saturday 22	Sunday 23
09.30 - 11.30 A R R I V A L	10.30 Opening		Partners' Activities				
12.00 - 14.00 LUNCH				<i>Intro to the day</i>			
16.00 - 17.30							
18.00 - 19.00							
19.00							
20.30 DINNER							
Welcome Evening	Youth Rights Expo Evening	<i>YOUTH RIGHTS through sports and games</i>	18.00 Roundtable	F r e e	P' As	Conclusions Closing of the University	D E P A R T U R E
		<i>YOUTH RIGHTS through creative expression</i>		<i>YOUTH RIGHTS and the local community</i>	<i>YOUTH RIGHTS through dance & music</i>	Farewell Party	
				(Evening activities: ...)			

Partners' Activities

- Global Education and Youth Training of Trainers (NSC - CoE and Network of Universities) 16 - 23 September
- 4th Youth Work Development Working Group Meeting: Global Youth Work (YFU) 16 - 20 September
- 15th International School: "Youth Rights in Action" (CJE) 16 - 23 September
- Building from within: A seminar for youth leaders of the African Diaspora living in Europe (ADYNE) 16 - 23-September
- You(th) Contribute(s) to build Civil Society to face Global Challenges (EFIL) 16 - 23 September
- eeeLearning for Advocacy (EEE - YFU) 19 - 23 September
- Green Leaders Training Course (YEU) 15 - 23 September
- Information Right Now! Campaign– Evaluation Meeting – ERYICA - 17 - 18 September
- Meeting of the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship - 20 September

Annex 2

Final Declaration 13th UYD

13th University on Youth and Development
Youth Rights

Final Declaration

Grant Young People the Rights that fit their Duties

We, the partners gathered in this 13th Edition of the University on Youth and Development (UYD):

Recalling the documents enhancing the rights of youth, namely the World Programme of Action on Youth, the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes, the Braga Youth Action Plan, the Iberoamerican Convention on Youth Rights, the African Youth Charter, the Final Statement of the NGO Global Meeting of the World Youth Conference 2010 and the Declaration of the World Youth Conference Guanajuato 2010 as well as the outcome document of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding;

Referring to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as other human rights instruments and standards such as the Declaration on the Right to Development, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the European Convention on Human Rights and the European Social Charter;

Reaffirming the decision of the partners of the Network of the Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship to designate "Youth Rights" as the joint theme for all three sister universities in 2012 and taking into account the debates and views expressed by the youth representatives participating at the 9th University of Participation and Citizenship in Uruguay and the 4th African University on Youth and Development in Cape Verde on youth rights;

Acknowledging that the situation of youth today presents us with unprecedented challenges associated with poverty and limited access to resources, education, healthcare and employment, along with social discrimination and the lack of participation in decision-making;

Noting with concern that these challenges have held young people back from achieving their autonomy, full potential and improve their well-being, hindering the youth development and the development of the society in a wider sense, while contributing to inequality and social exclusion;

Appreciating the fruitful debates and creative inputs on youth development and youth rights related issues at this University among more than 150 representatives of youth organisations from all over the world and other non-governmental organisations, national governments and international institutions;

want to grant young people the rights that fit their duties and therefore:

- call upon governments to take effective action to further promote and guarantee full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms to all young people in order to improve their situation and youth development, including adequate resources for research on these challenges as well as education on how to remedy them;

- emphasise the need to recognise young people as a specific age group, in transition from childhood to adulthood, that have specific needs and interests and are subjected to discrimination; therefore, they should be guaranteed specific rights and protection mechanisms to ensure their full enjoyment of the freedom of assembly and association, religion and belief, conscientious objection, expression and information, mobility; as well as the right to autonomy, education, participation, decent work and social protection, health, including sexual and reproductive health, housing and development; without any forms of discrimination;

- reaffirm the need to take particular account of the rights of vulnerable groups of young people, such as migrants, refugees, displaced, indigenous, with disabilities and minorities, as well as other socially marginalised groups, to ensure their full enjoyment of rights and fundamental freedoms on the basis of equality and to empower them to claim these rights;

- reiterate the need to also particularly secure young women's rights, including to sexual and reproductive health, and promote their protection against any form of violence, through policies and actions aimed to ensure gender equality and the empowerment of young women worldwide while continuing to actively combat their discrimination;

- call upon governments to further protect the rights of young people in contact with justice systems and in conflict with the law, including adequate law enforcement mechanisms, and ensure that the aim of the justice system is their full reintegration into society and not punishment;

- urge governments and institutions to ensure young people the right to be informed about their rights, through accessible and youth friendly information, as a prerequisite for the access of young people to their rights;

- request governments and institutions to recognise and further support human rights education and global education, in formal and non formal settings, education on access to justice for young people, and in order to enhance youth development free of charge, accessible and quality vocational and higher education needs to be ensured;
- urge governments, institutions and other relevant stakeholders to recognise youth as premise for development, and positive agents for social change and to include them as a central pillar in the post 2015 development agenda, in a strategy for sustainable human development.

Furthermore, we strongly recommend that Governments and relevant institutions:

- acknowledge and support the role and contribution of youth organisations in strengthening democracy and active citizenship – notably through non formal education – in order to enhance among young people the awareness, understanding and claiming of their rights, as well as their role in implementing and monitoring human rights;
- adopt a rights-based approach to youth policies in order to achieve youth development and implement youth rights as well as to create specific support schemes to promote this rights-based approach among officials and civil society;
- provide more research-based knowledge about human rights of young people as well as young peoples access to justice;
- launch a participatory debate in the framework of the United Nations Commission for Social Development on the initiative to establish a UN Convention on Youth Rights;
- set up ombudsperson institutions for youth rights at national, regional and global level, including a focus on vulnerable groups of young people;
- promote inclusive and participatory mechanisms and instruments for the effective protection of rights of young people, ensuring accountability at national, regional and international level;
- support, within the framework of the United Nations, the implementation of the Decade of People of African Descent as an instrument that will contribute to the elimination of all forms of discrimination and rights' violation that young people of African Descent are increasingly facing in our societies.

Annex 3

13th UYD: the World in Words and Figures

Source: North South Centre

Original participants

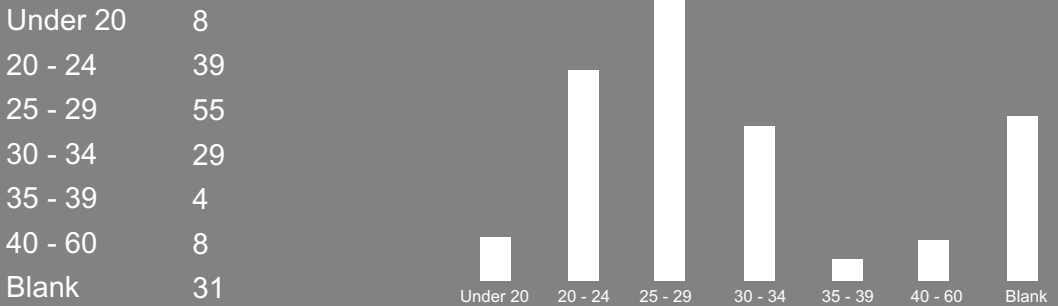


From Europe: More participants - 38 pax come from Spain; 19 fr
Other Continents: much diversification

Gender Balance



Age Range



Annex 4

List of participants

Nº	SURNAME and NAME	A g e	S e x	Country of Residence	Organisation	Acro.	Nationality
North-South Centre of the Council of Europe							
Global Education and Youth Training of Trainers							
Participants							
1	ABBAS Mostafa	29	M	Egypt	Oyoum Masr Association and Anna Lindh Foundation	ALF	Egyptian
2	ABUKSAWI Mohamed	26	M	Sudan	Pan African Youth Union	PYU	Sudanese
3	ADIKWU Michael Ejeh	28	M	Kenya	International Young Catholic Students Africa	IYCS	Nigerien
4	AGBOR Rosemary	23	F	Cameroon	ABEMO Cameroon		Cameroonian
5	BENGALY Afou Chantal	30	F	Kenya	International Movement of Catholic Students	IMCS	Malian
6	BETRIAN Júlia	26	F	Spain	National Youth Council of Catalonia	CNJC	Spain
7	CARDOSO Eliseu	29	M	Cape Verde	Federação Caboverdiana da Juventude	FCJ	Cape Verdean
8	CARYK Anna	20	F	Poland	MIJARC Europe	MIJARC	Polish
9	DOSANTOS Marcos	21	M	Spain	Consejo de la Juventud de España	CJE	Spanish
10	GALLI Viviana	29	F	Belgium	Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions	OBESSU	Italian
11	HAYRAPETYAN Anush	25	F	Armenia	Youth Action for Change		Armenian
12	KORBER Mauricio	25	M	Mexico	Asociación Cristiana de Jóvenes de la Ciudad de Mexico/ YMCA A.C.	YMCA	Mexican
13	MANEVSKI Matej	22	M	Macedonia	Center for Intercultural Dialogue		Macedonian
14	MIRANDA COLLAZO Maria del Rocío	28	F	Uruguay	SINERGIANET		Uruguayan
15	MONTI Eduardo Román	29	M	Argentina	Asociación Civil Alternativa Popular /FLAJ/ PFJA	FLAJ	Argentinian
16	NTEMWA John	33	M	Namibia	National Youth Council of Namibia		Namibian
17	OBANDO Jessica	25	F	Colombia	IFM-SEI y Colectivo de Mujeres Jóvenes /FLAJ	FLAJ	Colombian
18	PALM Juliano	26	M	Brazil	Fórum Nacional de Movimentos e Organizações Juvenis (FONAJUVES-BRASIL) /EIJ	EIJ	Brazilian
19	PATRIZIANO Gabriella	30	F	Italy	Forum Nazionale Giovani - Italian Youth Council	FNG	Italian
20	PIRVULESCU Corina	24	F	Romania	Romanian Youth Council / Consiliul Tineretului din România	CTR	Romanian
21	SOUNDARAM Thoumiyan	29	M	Sri Lanka	The National Council of the Young Men's Christian Association of Sri Lanka	YMCA	Sri Lankan
22	TAOUSS Madiha	28	F	Morocco	Association Jeunes pour Jeunes		Moroccan
23	TAVARES Nuno	31	M	Portugal	National Youth Council of Portugal	CNJ	Portuguese
24	TOUMI Fatma	30	F	Tunisia	Forum of European Muslim Youth and Student Organisations	FEMYSO	Tunisian
25	TROYA Ximena	34	F	Ecuador	Asociación Cristiana de Jóvenes de Ecuador /ACJ Ecuador /YMCA	YMCA	Ecuadorian
Trainers							
26	KLABBERS Victor	47	M	Kenya	The Network University	TNU	Dutch
27	TRAVERSA Fernando	40	M	Uruguay	University on Participation and Citizenship - Uruguay	UPC	Uruguayan
28	CICALA Federica	31	F	Italy	Pool of Trainers of European Youth Forum		Italian
29	KONDA Delphine	25	F	Belgium	International Falcon Movement - Socialist Educational International	IFM-SEI	Cameroonian

N° SURNAME and NAME	A g e	S e x	Country of Residence	Organisation	Acro.	Nationality
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Global Youth Work (YFJ)						
4th Youth Work Development Working Group Meeting						
Participants						
30	TRYGGVADOTTIR FLOVENZ Hildur	31	F	Germany	National Youth Council of Iceland	LÆF Icelandic
31	CORBO Giovanni	32	M	Italy	Forum Nazionale dei Giovani	FNG Italian
32	JARC Tea	24	F	Slovenia	National Youth Council of Slovenia	MSS Slovenian
33	KVANTALI Nikolai	28	M	Belarus	National Council of Youth and Children's Public Associations of Belarus	RADA Belarus
34	BORUT Cink	29	M	Slovenia	International Federation of Liberal Youth	IFRLY Slovene
35	GOJKOVIC Tamara	33	F	Serbia	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU Serbian
36	KIRSCHKE Elisabeth	27	F	Germany	German National Committee	DNK German
37	MASGRAU Eugeni Brigneti	24	M	Spain	International Falcon Movement - Socialist Educational International	IFM-SEI Spanish
Trainers						
38	BAL Ufuk	32	M	Poland	European Youth Forum Pool of Trainers	YFJ PoT Polish
Staff						
39	CHRISTENSEN Matthias	30	M	Belgium	European Youth Forum	YFJ Danish
40	LOMANAITE Guoda	25	F	Norway	European Youth Forum	YFJ Lithuanian

N° SURNAME and NAME	A g e	S e x	Country of Residence	Organisation	Acro.	Nationality	
African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe – ADYNE							
Building from within, a seminar for youth leaders of the African Diaspora							
Participants							
41	ABOYA Noelle	30	F	France	Bureau International Jeunesse	BIJ	French
42	AHMED Ifrah	24	F	Ireland	United Youth of Ireland		Somalian
43	AHMED Nassir	30	M	Denmark	Ogaden Youth & Student Union	OYSU	Danish
44	BO RODRÍGUEZ Jose Antonio	30	M	Spain	Coordinadora Andaluza de ONG de Desarrollo	CAONGD	Spanish
45	CHIAHOU Abderahman	21	M	France	Association des travailleurs maghébins de France		French
46	DIALLO Aissatou	25	F	Sweden	Scandinavian Diaspora Entrepreneurship Centre	SCANDEC	Swedish
47	MWANDO Ruvimbo	19	F	United Kingdom	Fife Migrants Forum		Zimbabwean
48	OBADIARU Isabel	32	F	Italy	Association pour la Promotion des Droits Humains	APDH	Italian
49	TEDAJO Kemo Florence	25	F	France	Versatile Organization		Cameroonian
50	KHACHI Fatima	24	F	Italy	Forum Nazionale Giovani	FNG	Italian
51	LACERDA Yoann	31	M	Cape Verde	Federação Caboverdiana de Juventude	FCJ	Capeverdean
52	ABDOURAHAMANE Diaby	30	M	Portugal	Associação de Refugiados em Portugal		Cote d'Ivoire
53	ENNAEM Med Yassine	28	M	Cyprus	International students Association in Cyprus		Moroccan
54	SAAFI Karim	31	M	Belgium	Shift and Twist		French/Tunisia
55	ADEAGBO Tara	19	F	United Kingdom	Young Magazine		British
56	BABALOLA Mayowa	24	M	Belgium	Crystal Minds Youth Development Initiative		Nigerian
57	AMUNO Mazino	18	M	Turkey	Cyprus International University		Nigerian
58	TOTORO Prince	25	M	Cyprus	Congolese youth United	UJCC	Congolese
59	RHOUZLANI Salah Eddine	23	M	Italy	Centre de Diversité et de Participation des Jeunes	CDIPAJ	Moroccan
60	HASSELL Katerly	30	F	The Netherlands	New Vision Solutions	Neviso	Dutch
61	NETSIYANWA Hailuu Chirauo	25	M	Ireland	National Youth Council Ireland	IYC	Zimbabwean
62	KABA Bader	28	M	France	Agissons Ensemble GIC	GIC	Guinean
Trainers							
63	ANTONIO Bruno		M	Portugal	African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe	ADYNE	
64	NTZILA Gloria		F	Greece	African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe	ADYNE	
65	TEIXEIRA GOMES Ludgero		M	Portugal	African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe	ADYNE	
Staff							
66	PIERETTO Silvia	23	F	Italy	African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe	ADYNE	Italian
67	SAYANGI Gisèle	27	F	France	African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe	ADYNE	
Guests							
68	FANON MENDES FRANCE Mireille		F	France	United Nations Working Group of Expert on People of African Descent		
69	KAAOISS Najatte	35	F	Belgium	Shift and Twist		

Nº SURNAME and NAME	A g e	S e x	Country of Residence	Organisation	Acro.	Nationality
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eeeLearning Advocacy Meeting							
70	KIRJAZOVAITE Lina	27	F	Lithuania	European Educational Exchanges - Youth For Understanding	EEE-YFU	Lithuanian
71	LINDSTRÖM Janne	24	M	Finland	European Educational Exchanges - Youth For Understanding	EEE-YFU	Finnish
72	BRÜNING Bianca	24	F	Germany	European Educational Exchanges - Youth For Understanding	EEE-YFU	German
73	BALALAU Razvan	24	M	Romania	European Educational Exchanges - Youth For Understanding	EEE-YFU	Romanian
74	KLINTING Charlotte	21	F	Denmark	European Educational Exchanges - Youth For Understanding	EEE-YFU	Danish

15th International School: "Youth Rights in Action" - CJE							
Participants							
75	RODRÍGUEZ CAÑADILLAS, Pablo	27	M	Spain	Consejo de la Juventud de Castilla La Mancha	CJCLM	Spanish
76	GÓMEZ VILLEGAS, Beatriz	26	F	Spain	Consejo de la Juventud de Castilla La Mancha	CJCLM	Spanish
77	MAINZER CARDELL, Albert Francesc	19	M	Spain	Consell de la Joventut de les Illes Balears	CJIB	Spanish
78	NASARRE EMBID, Beatriz	25	F	Spain	Estatal	AEGEE	Spanish
79	GARCÍA FERNÁNDEZ, Ana	24	F	Spain	Federación de Lesbianas, Gays, Transexuales y Bisexuales	FELGTB	Spanish
80	ESCALONA LUGO, Manuel	26	M	Spain	Federación de Lesbianas, Gays, Transexuales y Bisexuales	FELGTB	Venezuelan
81	RUIZ FERNÁNDEZ, Javier	22	M	Spain	Juventudes Socialistas de España	JSE	Spanish
82	CATALAN CHAMORRO, María José	23	F	Spain	Juventudes Socialistas de España	JSE	Spanish
83	RAMOS MUÑOZ, María del Carmen	28	F	Spain	ASDE- Scouts de España	ASDE	Spanish
84	GRANDE CEPERO, Estela Luisa	21	F	Spain	Federación Mujeres Jóvenes	FMJ	Spanish
85	MARTÍN GIJÓN, Susana	29	F	Spain	Federación Mujeres Jóvenes	FMJ	Spanish
86	CALLEALTA CONTRERAS, José Luis	25	M	Spain	Federación Concordia	Fed. Concordia	Spanish
87	SERRANO SANCHEZ, Alba María	18	F	Spain	CANAE	CANAE	Spanish
88	GARCÍA ALONSO, Carlos	20	M	Spain	Federación Don Bosco	Don Bosco	Spanish
89	HURTADO JIMÉNEZ, Ricardo	28	M	Spain	Federación Don Bosco	Don Bosco	Spanish
90	CEJAS CARMONA, Soledad	33	F	Spain	Consejo de la Juventud Andalucía	CJA	
Trainers							
91	LÓPEZ GARBAYO, Julio		M	Spain	Director - Trainer	CJE	Spanish
92	DE SOIGNIE GARCÍA, Rebeca		F	Spain	Trainer	CJE	Spanish
93	LUCCHI, Simone		M	Spain	Trainer	CJE	Italian
Staff							
94	MEDINA GARRIDO, Ana Belén		F	Spain	Organizer	CJE	Spanish
Guests							
95	GUDIÑA, Angel		M	Spain	Guest- Expert	Don Bosco	

N° SURNAME and NAME	A g e	S e x	Country of Residence	Organisation	Acro.	Nationality
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ERYICA							
Information Right Now! Campaign– Evaluation Meeting							
96	CAKIOVA Julie	33	F	Czech republic	Narodni institut deti a mladeze	NIDM	Czech
97	GUNVEN Asa	32	F	Sweden	Freelance	-	Swedish
98	SIMON Imre	31	M	Belgium	European Youth Information and Counselling Agency	ERYICA	Hungarian
99	CAPECCHI Davide	35	M	Germany	European Youth Information and Counselling Agency	ERYICA	Italian
100	HANNAWAY Sophie	18	F	Wales, UK	CLIC Online		British
101	HRADSKA Katarina	21	F	Slovakia	Association of Youth Information and counselling centers in Slovakia	ZIPCeM	Slovak

EFIL							
You(th) Contribute(s) to build Civil Society to face Global Challenges							
102	AZZAM Nashwa	19	F	Egypt	AFS Egypt	AFS EGY	Egyptian
103	ATWAN Fareeda	21	F	Egypt	AFS Egypt	AFS EGY	Egyptian
104	CSIKOS Gábor	29	M	Hungary	AFS Hungary	AFS HUN	Hungarian
105	PÄRPUCIS Mārtiņš	20	M	Latvia	AFS Latvia	AFS LAT	Latvian
106	NOIPUENG Wiset	53	M	Thailand	AFS Intercultural Programs Thailand	AFS THA	Thai
107	RAWDKHEM Boworn	54	M	Thailand	AFS Intercultural Programs Thailand	AFS THA	Thai
108	BANJONG Suporn	52	F	Thailand	AFS Intercultural Programs Thailand	AFS THA	Thai
109	PUTTAWIRO Nutchanat	57	F	Thailand	Hosting Center, AFS Thailand	AFS THA	Thai
110	KANIA Karolina	20	F	Poland	Global Citizens Poland	AFS	Polish
111	RUTKOVSKA Aija	42	F	Latvia	AFS Latvia	AFS LAT	Latvian
Trainers							
112	BELLING Anders	24	M	Denmark	AFS Interkultur Denmark	AFS DEN	Danish
113	SANTOS Dulio	24	M	Portugal	AFS - Portugal	AFS POR	Portuguese
114	KARAOGLU Hakan	26	M	Turkey	AFS Turkey	AFS TUR	Turkish
Staff							
115	MENKE Inga	30	F	Belgium	EFIL	EFIL	German

Nº SURNAME and NAME	A g e	S e x	Country of Residence	Organisation	Acro.	Nationality
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Youth for Exchange and Understanding
Green Leaders Training Course: Sustainability - Getting started!
Participants

116	SAMPAIO Valerio	27	M	Portugal	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Portuguese
117	PEETRI Maie	27	F	Portugal	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Estonian
118	NUÑEZ BELTRE Addy	29	M	Spain	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Dominican Rep.
119	MARTINEZ Miriam	25	F	Spain	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Spanish
120	GALLEGO PERALES María Reis	28	F	Spain	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Spanish
121	ECÍJA Beatriz	19	F	Spain	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Spanish
122	ÖZDEMİR Tuğçe	20	F	Turkey	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Turkish
123	SÄĞİROĞLU Özgecan	26	F	Turkey	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Turkish
124	AKGÜN Utkun	24	M	Turkey	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Turkish
125	ÇAĞLAYAN Rıza Berk	27	M	Turkey	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Turkish
126	ÖZTÜRKERİ Göksenin Orhan	22	M	Turkey	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Turkish
127	BOUSSAK Karim	28	M	Netherlands	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Dutch
128	MULLER Florian	28	M	Netherlands	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Dutch
129	VAN DER KROEF Wieke	24	F	Netherlands	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Dutch
130	BUZURUKOVA Umedakhon	22	F	Tajikistan	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Tajik
131	BROUWERS Suzanne	20	F	Belgium	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Belgian
132	DE BRUYNE Nathan	22	M	Belgium	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Belgian

Trainers

133	PADDISON NIK	45	M	Montenegro	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	British
134	SOETE Mathieu	26	M	Belgium	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Belgian

Staff

135	CANDEMIR Pelin	24	F	Portugal	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Turkish
136	ZEBROWSKA Klaudia	23	F	Belgium	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Polish
137	PAUNOVIĆ Marko	31	M	Belgium	Youth for Exchange and Understanding	YEU	Serbian

Joint Programme Team

138	MURSEC Simona	28	F	Slovenia	Joint Programme Coordinator		Slovenian
139	GULLETTA Riccardo	33	M	Spain	Co-facilitator		Italian
140	FERNANDES Brais	37	M	Spain	Team Member		Spanish
141	FISCHER Carmen	27	F	Austria	Team Member		Austrian
142	BRUNI Nicolás	27	M	Uruguay	Team Member (Universidad de Participación Ciudadana)		Uruguayan

Media Team

143	DE ANDRADE Diogo Pessoa	37	M	Portugal	Vídeo		Portuguese
144	CANDEIAS Jaques		M	Portugal	Website and Platform		Portuguese
145	SANTOS SPULBECK Lorena	25	F	Germany	Media		Cape Verdean
146	PALAZUELOS Antonio		M	Cape Verde	Press - Federação Cabo Verdiana de Juventude	FCJ	Spanish

N°	SURNAME and NAME	Age	Sex	Country of Residence	Organisation	Acro.	Nationality
Band							
147	AFONSO Rui		M	Portugal	Ubanda		Portuguese
148	CHEPPE Sebastien		M	France	Ubanda		French
149	ALEGRE José		M	Portugal	Ubanda		Portuguese
150	LOURENÇO Luis		M	Portugal	Ubanda		Portuguese
151	GAUTIER Pascal	51	M	France	Ubanda		French
Rapporteur							
152	BERTHOLLE Véronique		F	France	Youth Express Network/Association Réseau Express Jeunes	Y-E-N	France
Guests							
153	BELAY Freaselam		M	Ethiopia	African Union Commission	AU	
154	KARKARA Ravi		M	United States	UN Habitat	UNO	
155	BERLANGA Francisco Javier		M	Spain	INJUVE/ CEULAJ		
156	RAMIREZ Silvia		F	Spain	Organización Iberoamericana de Juventud	OIJ	
Interpretation							
157	MARTIN Anne		F		Interpreter		
158	ORTIZ Concha		F		Interpreter		
159	ORTEGA Eduardo Moreno		M		Sound Technician		
European Youth Forum							
160	FREITAS Vania	32	F	Belgium	European Youth Forum	YFJ	Portuguese
161	MATJASIC Peter	32	M	Belgium	European Youth Forum	YFJ	Slovenian
162	MAHIDI Mourad		M	Austria	European Youth Forum	YFJ	Austrian
163	MOHRS Falko		M	Germany	European Youth Forum	YFJ	
Spanish Youth Council							
164	IBARRA ROCA, Ricardo		M	Spain	Spanish Youth Council	CJE	Spanish
165	CONCA DOMÉNECH, Joan		M	Spain	Spanish Youth Council	CJE	Spanish
Foro Latinoamericano de Juventud							
166	FAMA Malena		F	Argentina	Foro Latinoamericano de Juventud	FLAJ	Argentinian
North-South Centre of the Council of Europe							
167	HENRIQUES Andreia	29	F	Portugal	North-South Centre of the Council of Europe	NSC	Portuguese
168	AMARAL Sara	22	F	Portugal	North-South Centre of the Council of Europe	NSC	Portuguese
169	AGUILAR Vanesa	29	F	Portugal	North-South Centre of the Council of Europe	NSC	Spanish
170	SILVA Miguel		M	Portugal	North-South Centre of the Council of Europe	NSC	Portuguese
171	HEYDT Jean-Marie		M	France	Vice Chair of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe	NSC	Swiss
172	CIOVOR Emilia	21	F	Romania	Logistics	Y-E-N	Romania
173	MARTINS Ricardo	36	M	Portugal	Logistics		Portuguese
174	SILVA David	28	M	Portugal	Logistics		Portuguese

Annex 5

Interviews and points of views

Seen in YEU's training room and that illustrates perfectly what the Network of Universities tries to be: « a conversation between continents »

In dedication to Anne Martin, Concha Ortiz and Eduardo Ortega from the interpretation team for helping the UYD reducing language barriers between all of us.

« Let's Try To Understand! »

Between

What I think

What I want to say

What I believe I am saying

What I am saying

What you wish to hear

What you believe you hear

What you are hearing

What you wish to understand

What you believe you understand

What you are understanding

There are 10 possibilities that we will meet with difficulties to communicate

But let's try anyway

Bernard Weber

Interviews Round Table Speakers

Freaselam Belay
African Union Commission

Can you explain to me what is the African Youth Charter and how it works?

The African Youth Charter is a legal framework that was proposed and really pushed by African youth organisations. They wanted to have a continental framework for member states to push national policies and programmes. They wanted a legal document that they can refer to when questions rose about what are youth rights and what they are entitled to.

The document has a lot of potential that if ratified by all member states, could really define what youth rights are. The African Union doesn't want to impose anything on member states. They want member states to agree to what the basic youth rights are for its youth, for young people and to harmonise those into 54 different policies but to be cohesive policies that are in harmony with each other. The youth in Tanzania would not only know for example what are their rights in Tanzania but what are their rights in all African continent.

Is this document very well known on the African continent?

Amongst certain circles, this document is very well known within youth groups. It is the legal document they really pushed their national government to implement. But I would say the majority of youth don't know that it exist even. That is because currently the majority of African young people live in rural settings. That means it is hard to be in touch with Youth councils like it is the case for Ethiopia for example. Youth councils have a lot of access to youth within urban settings, they can send copies of the document via internet but it is very hard for them to organise missions in the rural settings and to organise rural youth into knowing what their rights are. That is very unfortunate because I feel that young people in rural areas are the most unaware of what are their rights or that the government has to respect those rights.

The other issue is also that the African Youth Charter is only in 4 of the African Union languages : English, French, Arabic and Portuguese. It is the minimum required for any African Union document. It would be much more helpful to translate it in the local languages. That would give access to youth who maybe due to the challenges of the education system doesn't get to learn these 4 languages or to get to learn them professionally enough to be able to understand the document. It is not a heavy document but it requires some knowledge. It is not a pressing plan to translate it in a near future. We want every youth to be aware of what are their rights. But right now the priority is more to get the government to implement the statutes and the Charter.

How many states did ratify the Charter?

32 member states ratified it (signed by head of government and ratified by their parliaments). Even if 22 member states are still missing, we DO have the majority of African Union ratified. There are 5-6 countries that haven't signed the Charter but we hope with time that pressure of majority will get them to sign and ratify it.

Did you learn something from other regions from the round table discussion today?

It was really enlightening for me this round table. I met Mourad Mahidi already before. He came to the African Union to present the European context. He was a guest at the African Union to present the European Youth Forum. I know that Europe is trying to work on the topic of youth rights. He always came across that there wasn't a European Youth Charter and that the EU respects the process of African Youth Charter and tries to get inspired by this model.

I didn't hear before about the Iberoamerican context but I'm really interested. It is like a little bit of Europe and America. It is interesting to look at this third way to go.

What is your perception of the UYD?

It seems really good. Very incredible. I like the energy that is here. The people here are all young and dynamic and have a lot of ideas. I think it is a great forum for sharing ideas and promoting what has been done and planning the future. It's very different on how things get done in big national organisations. I feel like it is just as effective because people are passionate. They explain their ideas and they have a solid methodology. It produces results. In the end that all matters, not necessarily the process that goes into it.

Did you know about the network of Sister Universities?

I knew about the Cap Verdian University but I didn't participate myself. My colleague did.

And then, Freaselam Belay asked me a question : « Have you been to Africa ? ». When I said I would love to discover the African continent but never organised myself to do so, he replied, smiling:

« Don't worry. Take your time. Africa will not go anywhere. It will wait for you »

Interview Mourad Mahidi
European Youth Forum

Tell me what does rights-based approach mean?

The way we talk about it is just a reflection of how we think about it. In the YFJ we initially starting working at youth rights in the early 1990s, since the beginning of the YFJ. Then there was a period where we didn't work so actively and so consciously with it. Couple of last years, we realised a lot that ultimately one thing that we ourselves as youth organisations have to understand is that a lot of things depend also on our own approach to things. If we only demand or if we approach our governments with a needs based approach (young people need jobs because they are unemployed) we won't get them to realise that these issues are actually Human Rights issues. We need to understand that we shouldn't go there to say « young people need jobs » but we should go there and say « young people have a right to jobs » and so, this for ourselves depends on our personal approach. We need to find ways to communicate that these are all Human Rights issues. Very few youth organisations consciously do that. Most of them are working on Human Rights issues but they never really thought of it in a structure of Human Rights.

It is very much of a shift on how we approach and look at things. This is something we in the YFJ look at in our documents. In many of our documents we could include reference to the European Human Rights Declaration (right to work) when we talk about unemployment. We can also talk about education with referring to education as a right (right to quality education). We normally never do it which is taken for granted. We need to make this switch to expressively talk about Human Rights. Only once we change this way about how we think about things, how we understand things, we can start to speak to governments on the rights level. Ultimately many youth organisations really do work on Human Rights issues but they never realised that they are doing it. There are so many examples of youth organisations working with education, participation, employment, housing...they almost never realised that they actually are working on Human Rights.

Do you think it is because youth organisations are too humble to say they are working on Human Rights or because Human Rights are still too abstract?

No, I think it is more likely because Human Rights are still too abstract. They are written in these very complicated legal texts that you need to study, it's very complicated to understand, very complicated to see the link between them. I think it is very difficult to take these very complicated legal texts, to bring them down to earth effect and translate them in concrete actions. For example: when you speak about a young person without a home, you actually speak about right to housing. But right to housing is more complicated, it has different interpretations and different case laws. It is easily going abstract and you lose the connection between the young person who doesn't have a house and the right to housing as a fundamental right. We, youth organisations and young people, need to empower ourselves to be able to communicate on that level and not be afraid of it. Youth organisations have not always

a legal and legalistic approach but more a practical approach. We like to work with young people, we don't like to study legal texts. But we need to lose this fear for legal approach, legal sphere and tools. This is what we try to do with the YFJ when we are thinking of the opportunity of taking legal action and create case laws or work with the European Social Committee to make a collective complaint using the European Social Charter.

We need to change the way we look at these legal tools. Sometimes it makes such a difference when you use the right arguments with governments. We are at the very beginning but with this approach, governments have to talk about it. They themselves even signed up for these things. They can not go around and say « we don't have resources, we like what you say but sorry ». No they have to start doing something. The more we talk about youth rights and have a right-based approach, the more we notice that it has a slowly effect on European institutions such as the European Commission or the European Parliament. If you look at the Council of Europe now you can find documents where they make references to youth rights, where they talk about Human Rights of young people without us being involved in it. We had this very big success last year when the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe adopted a recommendation to work on a Convention on Youth Rights. It is a very important step for us.

Would you define yourself as a youth rights researcher?

No, that would be too ambiguous. I prefer to say that I wrote my thesis on youth rights when I was making this post-graduate programme in Human Rights and Democratisation issues.

There is practically no academic research on youth rights. That was also very hard for me when I was writing the thesis. At the moment there is still almost no academic work on how young people access their Human Rights. Youth rights don't exist at the moment as a category. You can find a lot of things about Children's Rights because you have the Children's Right Convention. It is easier to create research on it. But because youth rights is still such a young concept so to say, there is almost no research. It makes working on youth rights so much harder because everything you do you are basically the first one to do. You really need to invest a lot of time and resource to get something done because you cannot build upon previous work.

How did you come up with this idea of working on youth rights?

Some years ago, I was in the YFJ Human Rights Working Group and I heard that the the YFJ was working on youth rights. I was interested and looked into the concept when I got to write my thesis. I didn't want to work on a topic that was done before and was written already 20 times, repeating others' work. I looked at the question of youth rights and how this specific group is accessing Human Rights. I wanted to write about something that would realistically bring something new into the field and where I had the chance to contribute so that my thesis wouldn't go on a book shelf somewhere and would never be read.

So would you say that your volunteer background influenced your career as researcher?

Yes, I was really happy about the fact that the YFJ decided to publish my thesis as one of its publications. I really have the feeling that people are reading it. I really wanted to make something where I would contribute.

Interview of Silvia Ramirez
Organizacion Iberoamericana de Juventud

¿Me puede explicar qué es la Convención Iberoamericana de los Derechos de la Juventud?

La Convención Iberoamericana de Derechos de los Jóvenes es un tratado internacional de derechos humanos, firmado el 11 de octubre del 2005 en la ciudad española de Badajoz y vigente desde el 1 de marzo de 2008. Su alcance de aplicación está circunscrito a los 21 países que conforman la Comunidad Iberoamericana de Naciones.

La Convención es un acuerdo de carácter vinculante que establece el compromiso de los Estados Parte a garantizar a las personas jóvenes de entre 15 y 24 años de edad, sin discriminación alguna, el cumplimiento de los derechos humanos recogidos en el articulado.

De forma particular, los Estados Parte deben abstenerse de interferir en el goce de los derechos dentro de su jurisdicción; impedir la violación de los mismos por parte de individuos, grupos, instituciones, corporaciones, etc.; y tomar medidas legislativas, administrativas, presupuestarias, judiciales, etc. para lograr la plena realización de los derechos.

La Organización Iberoamericana de Juventud (OIJ), organismo internacional de carácter multigubernamental, ha impulsado el proceso de elaboración y consolidación de la Convención. La OIJ busca contribuir a posicionar este tratado de Derechos Humanos como un instrumento jurídico trascendente que genere impacto en las legislaciones de los países y que ofrezca la base jurídica para la realización de acciones emprendidas a favor de las y los jóvenes.

Se debe resaltar que la Convención es el primer tratado internacional en vigor que reconoce específicamente los derechos de las personas jóvenes, por esta razón está sirviendo como referente para los procesos similares adelantados en otras regiones del mundo.

¿Cuál fue el papel de las ONG de la juventud en el proceso de elaboración de la Convención?

En realidad, el papel ha sido posterior, fundamentalmente en promoción del tratado. La elaboración fue desarrollada especialmente por los Estados, a través de los organismos oficiales de juventud y por un gran equipo de especialistas y juristas. Durante años se hicieron reuniones, encuentros y consultas para poder elaborar el texto de la Convención.

¿Ese documento es muy conocido en América Latina?

En América Latina empieza a ser un referente en materia de legislación de juventud y sobre todo como base de las políticas públicas. Además, cada vez más los propios jóvenes se están apropiando de la Convención y demandando el cumplimiento de los derechos recogidos en ésta.

¿Ese documento es muy conocido en Portugal y España?

Portugal firmó la Convención y España la ratificó, incluso el estado español ya entregó el primer informe de cumplimiento de la Convención. Sin embargo queda mucho trabajo por su promoción en ámbitos académicos, entre estudiantes, y jóvenes en general.

¿Cuál es el impacto en la vida de los jóvenes?

En la Convención se recogen derechos que afectan todos los ámbitos de la vida de las personas jóvenes: salud, educación, empleo, vivienda, cultura, participación, identidad, medioambiente, desarrollo, etc etc. Por eso el impacto de la Convención es amplio e integral y lograr su promoción y apropiación de parte de los jóvenes no solo implica favorecer la ratificación del tratado en los Estados sino, lo más importante, es que la gente joven conozca sus derechos y los reivindique ante sus gobiernos, basándose en su legislación nacional si es el caso de que la Convención no esté ratificada en sus países, o que la use como punto de partida para el diseño de políticas públicas. Si logramos que la Convención sea ratificada por todos los estados iberoamericanos el impacto será aún mayor.

Annex 6

Useful links

About UYD:

<http://uyd.me/>

<http://community.uyd.me/>

UYD Media Team Videos:

<http://community.uyd.me/videos/owner/748/uyd-media-team>

About Youth Rights:

African Youth Charter

<http://www.africa-union.org/root/ua/conferences/mai/hrst/charter%20english.pdf>

Iberoamerican Convention on the Rights of Youth

http://www.oij.org/es_ES/publicacion/convencion-iberoamericana-de-derechos-de-los-jovenes

European Context

http://issuu.com/yomag/docs/the-young-and-the-rightless_the-protection-of-yout

Educational Tools:

Fight Against Racism: DOMINO

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/Source/Resources/Publications/DOMino_en.pdf

Global Education

<http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/nscentre/ge/GE-Guidelines/GEguidelines-web.pdf>

“Have Your Say”: Manual on the Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life

http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&produit_aliasid=2303lang=EN

Human Rights Education: COMPASS and COMPASITO (for children)

<http://eycb.coe.int/compass/>

<http://www.eycb.coe.int/compasito/default.htm>

Intercultural Education

<http://eycb.coe.int/edupack/default.htm>

Non Formal Education

http://eycb.coe.int/compass/en/pdf/Companion_final.pdf

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/Source/Resources/Portfolio/Compendium_NFE_en.pdf

http://www.youthforum.org/fr/system/files/yfj_public/other_reports/en/NFE.pdf

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/Source/Resources/Portfolio/Portfolio_en.pdf

Training Kits

http://youth-partnership-eu.coe.int/youth-partnership/publications/T-kits/T_kits



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