

4th Training course for the staff of youth centres in the network of the Council of Europe Quality Label for Youth Centres

E-learning: First week of April till 6th May 2019

Residential Course: 14 May - 17 May 2019

Youth Centre Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Training course presentation

Programme

Deadline to register: 20 March 2019, 13:00 CET



Training course rationale

The promotion of the educational philosophy and approaches practiced in the European Youth Centres in member states of the Council of Europe and beyond has been a priority for the Youth Sector of the Council of Europe since the 1990s.

The [Quality Label for Youth Centres](#) programme was established in 2010 to promote the European Youth Centres of the Council of Europe as standard-setting instruments and examples of good practice for youth policy. The project aims also at knowledge sharing and networking among youth centres across Europe. It has three main pillars:

- the Council of Europe Quality Label for Youth Centres, to be awarded to youth centres that meet the standard;
- an annual meeting of the European Platform of Youth Centres to ensure networking among centres recognised with the label and those aspiring to its acquisition; and
- an annual training session for the staff of the labelled centres and of members of the network wishing to join the group of labelled centres.

The Council of Europe Quality Label represents an opportunity for existing or planned youth centres in signatory states of the European Cultural Convention to associate to the values and youth policy priorities of the Council of Europe. It is also conceived to support self-paced development process for the youth centres in the Quality Label platform to achieve and maintain quality standards in respect to all areas of work from services to educational programme, inspired by the established standards set by the Council of Europe in the youth sector. The project places a great emphasis on peer learning and networking and all in all promotes recognition and quality of non-formal learning and youth work.

The training course, as a feature of the project, was introduced on 2015 with the aim to further support youth centres, labelled or in the process, to develop the quality of their educational programmes in respect to the priorities of the youth sector of the Council of Europe and the needs of young people they serve. Each of the centres in the network has its own specificity in terms of focus and/or preferred approaches, reflecting the diversity of youth work in Europe. The training course together with the Quality Label Platform meetings provide essential moments of learning, reflection, and competence development in fine-tuning the specificity of the centres with the Council of Europe work. The previous editions focused on human rights education and access of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods to social rights.

The **fourth edition** intends to revisit the theme of human rights education, offering space for reflection on present day practices of the youth centres as well as further development of competences of staff members. At the same time it also addresses a current theme in youth sector, namely the Recommendation CM/Rec (2017)4 of the Committee of Ministers on youth work. As such, this training course provides an opportunity for staff of labelled youth centres and partners to strengthen their knowledge of the Youth Department's tools, quality standards and explore possibilities to associate their educational programme to the values and youth policy priorities of the Council of Europe.

The theme of the training course was decided in consultation with the participants in the 9th European Platform Meeting held in June 2018 in the European Youth Centre in Budapest and also took into consideration proposals from the participants of the previous training course.

| The training course aims and objectives

The training course is aimed to further develop competences of the educational staff of youth centres in the Quality Label network in delivering quality human rights education and youth work services and activities in various contexts and strengthen the cooperation among the youth centres.

The specific objectives of the training course are:

- to reflect on the current place for human rights education in the work of the youth centres;
- to develop competences of staff as human rights educators in embedding human rights education in the work and programmes of the youth centres;
- to reinforce the provision of quality youth work services at the youth centres with special respect to youth participation;
- to make participants acquainted with relevant tools and instruments of the Council of Europe and in particular on the Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)4 of the Committee of Ministers on youth work;
- to provide space for developing cooperation, networking and sharing of good practices in areas of common interest among staff of the youth centres.

Draft Programme

The programme of the training course will be combination of an introductory e-learning phase and a residential training. Online learning units will ensure a similar degree of knowledge amongst participants in respect to the Quality Label for Youth Centres project, the Council of Europe and its work on human rights education and youth work. The residential seminar will focus on holistic competence development and experience sharing among participants with an approach based on non-formal learning, with a strong emphasis on peer sharing.

The online learning phase is foreseen to start in the first week of April and will last until 6 May 2019.

E-learning (April-May 2019)

Module 1 Introduction and getting to know each other

The module will support participants to explore the course, the objectives, get to know the other participants and their youth centres including updates since the previous training course and address practicalities related to the training course.

As an optional element for participants that are new to the Quality Label for youth centres, the module will also offer an introduction to the Quality Label Programme.

Module 2 Reflection on the place of human rights education in the work of Youth Centres

The module will provide space participants to start a reflection on current practices in human rights education in their respective centres, to share about their findings and potentially identify areas for further improvement.

Module 3 Recommendation on youth work

This third module will introduce the Recommendation CM/Rec (2017)4 of the Committee of Ministers on youth work and allow participants to explore links with the mission and activities of their youth centres.

Residential training course

Monday, 13 May 2019

Arrival of participants
19:00 *Dinner*
20:30 Welcome evening

Tuesday, 14 May 2019

9:15 Official opening of the training course & Exploring Youth Centre Plovdiv
11:00 *Break*
11:30 (Re)connecting with each other
13:00 *Lunch*
14:30 Teambuilding activities
16:00 *Break*
16:30 Updates on the Quality Label Programme and news from the Youth Centres
18:00 Daily reflection
19:00 *Dinner*

Wednesday, 15 May 2019

9:15 Refresher on Human Rights Education
11:00 *Break*
11:30 Reflection on human rights education practices of the Youth Centres
13:00 *Lunch*
14:30 Promoting human rights through sports and outdoor education
16:00 *Break*
16:30 Promoting human rights through sports and outdoor education
18:00 Daily reflection
19:00 *Dinner*

Thursday, 16 May 2019

9:15 Human rights education through arts and culture
11:00 *Break*
11:30 Human rights education and creative writing
13:00 *Lunch*
14:30 Human rights and sustainability & Human rights education and experiential learning
16:00 *Free time and guided tour in Plovdiv*
19:00 *Dinner out in town*

Friday, 17 May 2019

9:15 Introduction to the Recommendation CM/Rec (2017) 4 on youth work
11:00 *Break*
11:30 Volunteering in the work of the youth centres – challenges and opportunities
13:00 *Lunch*
14:30 Open space: cooperation and follow-up
16:00 *Break*
16:30 Evaluation and closing
18:00 Daily reflection
19:00 *Dinner*

Saturday, 18 May 2019

Departures

Participants' profile and recruitment procedure

The training course will bring together up to 30 participants that are:

- Educational staff or staff responsible for the programme of the **youth centres** that have received the Council of Europe Quality Label for Youth Centres and members of the Platform;
- Educational staff or decision making staff of **associated partners** of the youth centres, participating in the meetings of the Platform and aspiring to receive the Quality Label.

The participants should be:

- Supported by their youth centre/organisation/institution to follow up the training course through the educational programme of the youth centre/organisation;
- Able to work autonomously in English language;
- Able to attend the entire training course duration, including dedicating 1-2 h/week for online learning during the period first week of April and 6th May 2019.

The Council of Europe welcomes applications from all candidates who fulfil the above mentioned profile, irrespective of gender, disability, marital or parental status, racial, ethnic or social origin, colour, religion, belief or sexual orientation.

Practical information

Working days

The training course will entail 4 working days. Participants are required to plan their travel to arrive in Youth Centre Plovdiv in Bulgaria on 13th May 2019 before dinner and depart in the morning on 18th May 2019. Transport to and from Youth Centre Plovdiv from Sofia will be provided by the hosting centre. Please note, that the travel between the two cities take approx. 1,5-2 hours, depending on traffic. You will be asked to provide your arrival and departure times prior to the event.

Working language

The working language of the training course is English.

Board and lodging, working venue

Participants will be provided with board and lodging in the Youth Centre Plovdiv, where also the training course will be held.

Plovdiv Youth Centre is accessible to people with disabilities and can take measures to accommodate for any specific needs of participants in this respect. Please provide the necessary information in your application form.

Travel and visa

All participants requiring a visa to Bulgaria will be provided with an invitation letter and support by the Council of Europe.

Travel costs for the selected participants that are staff of the youth centres who have received or aspiring to receive the Council of Europe Quality Label for Youth Centres will be reimbursed by the Council of Europe according to its attached rules.

Further information and contact

For information related to this call, please contact Zita Karácson, programme assistant, zita.karacson@coe.int (practical arrangements) or László Milutinovits, educational advisor, laszlo.milutinovits@coe.int (e-learning and educational matters).

For support with the online registration form, please contact youthapplications@coe.int.

All interested candidates must register by 20 March 2019 (13.00h CET) online at this link:
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/tc-for-the-staff-of-youth-centres>