



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS “Youth Delegate for a year”

Participation of Youth Delegates at the 2021 sessions of the Conference of INGOs

In line with its “Roadmap for youth participation”, the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe will invite 3 young persons, representing their member INGO, to Strasbourg (France), to take an active part, as a youth delegate, in its coming activities, contribute to the work and statutory meetings.

The deadline for applications is 20 March 2021. Only successful applicants will be contacted, by the 25th of March.

What is the Conference of INGOs?

More than 300 INGOs enjoy participatory status and make up, since 2005, the **Conference of INGOs**. Together, they constitute civil society’s pillar in the Council of Europe so called “quadrilogue” with the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities.

Through this status, the Council of Europe includes INGOs in its intergovernmental activities and encourages dialogue between the members of Parliament, local and regional authorities and those of diverse INGOs on the various challenges facing society.

→ Learn more about the [Conference of INGOs](#)

The Conference of INGOs and youth participation

In April 2018, the INGO Conference adopted a new Roadmap for youth participation. Following its youth Strategy, it is now inviting 3 youth delegates representing member organizations to take part in its two 2021 sessions:

- to have their say in the debates

- to exchange with Conference of INGOs members on the issues on the agenda.

→ Learn more about the [“Roadmap for youth participation”](#) of the Conference of INGOs

By inviting a number of young people to take an active part in its 2021 sessions the Conference of INGOs aims to give young people an opportunity to be an active and direct contributor to issues being discussed during these sessions.

The specific objectives are to:

- involve young people directly in all aspects of the Conference of INGOs’ work;
- make young people aware about the Conference of INGOs’ work and the tools it has developed to support NGO participation in the Council of Europe work and in its member countries;
- discuss with young people on how youth participation can be boosted in NGO life;
- bring the youth perspective to all thematic debates within the Conference of INGOs;
- motivate the youth delegates to multiply the information and experience acquired during the sessions on their return to their sending organisation;
- share information about existing models of youth-led structures and motivate young people to spread the word about the Conference of INGOs’ work;
- promote co-operation between members of the Conference of INGOs and youth delegates;
- demonstrate the importance of including more young people as active members.

Participating in the Conference of INGOs’ work for 2021

Being a youth delegate for a year is a unique opportunity to gain international experience, become a part of a diverse group of young activists, network and make an impact by stimulating the debates from a youth perspective thereby highlighting and strengthening the Conference of INGOs’ commitment to youth empowerment.

1. Participating as a youth delegate in the sessions

Firstly, the youth delegates will attend -online- both of the Conference of INGOs' 2021 sessions. A preparatory session will be organised prior to each session. Youth delegates must commit to taking part in the whole of the two 2021 sessions: 27-29 April 2021 and October 2021.

2. Developing and implementing projects between the sessions

Secondly, between April and October, youth delegates will remain involved -online- in the work of the Conference of INGOs. They will be required to undertake initiatives and develop projects related to the Conference of INGOs' priorities or to the session themes for 2021. For this, they will have the support of the Conference of INGOs Bureau member. While the Conference of INGOs will not provide funding for project development, it will provide youth delegates with an introduction letter to act as a visiting card in their dealings with other institutions and may provide information material. There may also be possibilities for some of the youth delegates to participate in other events organised by the Conference of INGOs.

Application procedure and selection of participants

Those wishing to apply to take part in the April and October Conference of INGOs sessions must do so by means of the application form enclosed. Participation in only one session is not possible.

The deadline for submitting completed applications is 20 March 2021.

The youth delegates will be selected by a selection panel which includes the President of INGO- Service, 2 Bureau members of the Conference of INGOs coordinators of the Youth road map and two members of the Council of Europe's Advisory Council on Youth. The panel will ensure that the selected applicants represent a balanced group with regard to gender, cultural background and experience.

Applicants will be informed of the results of the selection procedure by the 25th of March 2021.

Travel, subsistence and accommodation

Under the circumstances, due to Covid-19 pandemic, participation in the sessions of the Conference, youth delegates bi-weekly meetings, and organization of projects will

be done mostly online and remotely. Any in-person meeting be organized some time during the year as soon as travel restrictions will be lifted, will be covered by the INGO Service according to its rules.

If needed, the youth delegates' travel and subsistence expenses will be covered by the INGO Service according to its rules.

Accommodation if needed will be provided and paid for by the organisers, in single-occupancy or shared rooms according to availability. The organisers cannot cover the cost of accommodation elsewhere.

Aims and objectives

Compulsory activities include:

- participation in preparatory activities prior to each session;
- full -online- attendance during both sessions (which included the preparation day on the eve of each session and the evaluation meeting on the last afternoon of each session);
- availability to hold several Skype meetings (April – September) to prepare the youth project;
- implementation of a project between April and October 2021.

Profile of participants

The youth delegates should meet the following criteria:

- be open, committed and motivated to develop and strengthen dialogue between young people and civil society;
- be between 18 and 30 years old;
- represent an INGO member of the Conference of INGOs
- be available to engage in the whole of the activity including the preparation of grass- roots projects;

- have an interest in actively participating in the policy making processes supporting civil society;
- be able to multiply the information obtained during the session on their return in their sending organisation;
- speak English fluently

For more information please contact:

Rareş Augustin CRĂIUȚ

Board member of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe

rares.craiot@ingo-coe.org

+32 479 633 577

Skype ID: craiutrares