



Ref number: DDP-YD/ETD (2022) 81

Strasbourg, 22nd of April 2022

Study session

“Climbing the ladder - Capacitating youth leaders to facilitate youth participation in decision-making processes at the local level”

Study session organised within the [Youth for Democracy programme](#) in cooperation with [DYPALL Network](#) (Developing Youth Participation at Local Level) and [Assembly of European Regions](#)

European Youth Centre Strasbourg, room 0.1
[25-29 April 2022]

Draft Programme

Sunday, 24th of April 2022

Arrival of participants
19:00 Dinner
21:00 Welcome evening

Monday, 25th of April 2022

09:30 Opening with welcome words and team-building activity
11:00 Break
11:30 Official intro of the Council of Europe and the Youth Department and their work on youth participation; aims & objectives of the Study Session / Expectations & programme
13:00 Lunch
14:30 The impact of Covid19 on the Youth Sector and the community of practice: What, how, when and where
16:00 Break
16:30 The “new normal”: pros, cons, opportunities, challenges for youth participation
18:00 Reflection group
19:00 Dinner

Tuesday, 26th of April 2022 (with the participation of Hrvoje Kovač, lecturer)

09:30 Theoretical background pt.1: trends and resources from the Youth field
11:00 Break
11:30 Theoretical background pt.2 and mapping of stakeholders in your community
13:00 Lunch break
14:30 Exchange of practices in the field of youth participation and youth work
(case studies, best practices) *with Hrvoje Kovač*
16:00 Break
16:30 Key competences for youth leaders to facilitate youth participation with *Hrvoje Kovač*
18:00 Reflection group
19:00 Dinner
21:00 Optional activity: the Youth Centre Olympics

Wednesday, 27th of April 2022 (with the participation of Hrvoje Kovač, lecturer)

09:30 Tools and approaches to advocacy, with *Hrvoje Kovač*
11:00 Break
11:30 From challenges to opportunities: drafting your advocacy plan, with *Hrvoje Kovač*
13:00 Lunch break
Free afternoon
19:00 Dinner
21:00 Optional activity (TBD)

Thursday, 28th of April 2022

09:30 What can be done next? Target audience and possible actions
11:00 Break
11:30 Implementation strategy
13:00 Lunch
14:30 Where are we? Presenting the conclusions from the advocacy exercise
16:00 Break
16:30 Sharing and disseminating conclusions and ideas
18:00 Reflection group
19:30 Dinner out in the city center

Friday, 29th of April 2022

09:30 Harvesting and conclusions
"Democracy Here. Democracy Now " - youth campaign for revitalising democracy and for strengthening mutual trust between young people and democratic institutions and processes
11:00 Break
11:30 Closing session: what did you learn? what is still left?
13:00 Lunch

14:30 Departures
19:00 Dinner

Saturday 30th of April 2022
Last departure of participants

Description of the lecturer - Hrvoje Kovač (Lepoglava Municipality):

Hrvoje is a Youth policy activist & civil society expert with more than 15 years of experience in capacity building of youth organizations and 10 years of experience in preparing and implementing EU-funded projects.

He has served as a member of the presidency of the Youth Regional Network (YRN) - which is a platform of regional-level youth organizations, councils and parliaments from across wider Europe. He has also been the Chair of the Subcommittee on Youth at the Assembly of European Regions in the past.

Aim and objectives of the Study Session “Climbing the ladder - Capacitating youth leaders to facilitate youth participation in decision-making processes at the local level”

Aim: The study session aims at empowering a group of young people to advocate for meaningful youth participation at the local and regional levels.

The participants will expand their knowledge about youth work and youth participation in the democratic life of their local communities, including the most recent trends while improving their practical skills in facilitating short activities and designing a youth dialogue process. Moreover, the participants will complete the study session with a clearer vision and a step-by-step working plan on how to implement the outcomes of the session and be more engaged as young facilitators for democratic processes in their local and regional realities.

Objectives:

- To bring together and train 25 youth leaders from all around Europe about youth participation in the democratic life of their local communities, in line with the most recent mechanisms, recommendations, structures, models;
- To explore the impact of Covid19 in the traditional and formal processes and available spaces for youth participation (youth councils, youth organizations, youth delegate program, etc) and map new forms of participation that emerged during the pandemic (from the experience of DYPALL Network and that of the participants – e-participation, blended mobilities);
- To reflect on and provide with a wide range of tools, both traditional and digital, that can boost the active participation of young people in their local communities;
- To create and test a learning module based on non-formal education that includes vital elements (such as advocacy principles, outreach strategies, facilitation skills) to build participants’ competencies and strengthen their leadership to activate youth participation at the local level and multiply their learnings and attitudes with their peers;
- To empower 25 youth leaders to continue playing a key role in revitalizing democratic processes throughout Europe.