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COMPASS

Training Trainers in Human Rights
Education with Young People in Serbia

6-10 November 2023Serbia

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Deadline: 22 October 2023

The context

Over the last decade, the provision of activities on education for democratic citizenship and human rights education (EDC/HRE) for and with young people in Serbia has been decreasing. This is accompanied by a perception of disengagement from the Council of Europe key values and approaches, in line with tendencies for the backsliding of democracy in various member states. Youth organisations motivated and committed to involving young people in EDC/HRE lack the resources to extend and deepen their youth work and non-formal education activities for EDC/HRE with young people.

To support the implementation of the Charter on EDC/HRE and youth organisations as providers of EDC/HRE, the Council of Europe Youth Department has launched the project "Citizenship and Human Rights Education with Young People in Serbia".

Central to the project is the capacity-building of youth leaders, multipliers, and youth workers to better provide and introduce EDC/HRE in youth projects and activities, based on the Compass and the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education. COMPASS is a manual that provides youth organisations, youth leaders, and young people throughout Europe with tools that could help them in their projects and activities relating to human rights and human rights education. A Serbian version of the manual has been made available. It will be used to support the activities of the project.

The course: Training Trainers in Human Rights Education with Young People in Serbia

In this framework, the Youth Department of the Council of Europe organises the course Training for Trainers in Human Rights Education with Young People in Serbia. The course will be held from 6 to 10 November, in Serbia (the exact location of the training course will be communicated at a later stage; participants are expected to arrive on 5 November and depart on 11 November 2023).

The training course aims to restore and renew the commitment of youth organisations and other competent (educational) institutions in Serbia to EDC/HRE, prepare them to multiply HRE approaches and standards, and support the quality and sustainability of training activities for human rights education at the national and local level.

The participants will develop competencies to act as trainers or multipliers for human rights education in the context of the local training courses, to make use of COMPASS, and to support the implementation of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education.

Objectives

- To strengthen participants' understanding of key concepts of human rights and human rights education with young people;
- To familiarise participants with the approaches and activities of the COMPASS Manual for Human Rights Education with Young People and how to best use and adapt it to the local context and reality;
- To analyse current developments and new trends in human rights education throughout Europe;
- To introduce the participants and their organisations to the priorities of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe related to human rights education;
- To contribute to the development of networks of trainers and multipliers on human rights education with young people in Serbia.

The participants will be able to develop (or begin developing) the core competences for trainers and multipliers in human rights education with young people, such as:

- 1. Awareness of human rights violations on a global and local level and the ability to act upon them by using human rights education;
- 2. The knowledge of major instruments for the protection and promotion of human rights and the ability to connect them with the lives of young people and a local context;
- 3. The ability to think critically and analyse multiple perspectives on contemporary human rights issues and dilemmas;
- 4. The understanding of key principles of non-formal education, their application in human rights education, and different approaches to learning;
- 5. The ability to recognise and translate the human rights value framework into personal, social, and professional actions;
- 6. The capacity to be an advocate for human rights education and to liaise with relevant stakeholders for the purpose of promoting human rights education at a national and local level;
- 7. The capacity to design and implement human rights education activities in line with the quality standards of the Council of Europe Youth Department;
- 8. The ability to use COMPASS and to adapt its activities taking into consideration local realities, social contexts, and the needs of target groups;
- 9. The ability to express empathy, tolerance of ambiguity, and distance from social roles, as well as to constructively deal with conflict in the context of human rights training;
- 10. The capacity to design and deliver human rights education activities, as well as to assess and evaluate their results;
- 11. The ability to plan one's own learning and to co-operate within a team.

Methodology and structure of the course

Phase 1 – The training course (November 2023)

The training course is based on the principles and approaches of democratic citizenship and human rights education and is designed to be an experience of mutual learning and sharing among participants. The overall course will give participants the opportunity to experience, discuss, and reflect upon activities and concepts central to human rights education based on experiential learning approaches. The participants will experience and explore activities and approaches from COMPASS as a starting point for learning further about human rights education and training. The contributions from different Council of Europe representatives and experts will further support the course and participants' learning processes.

The programme of the course is currently under preparation, and it will be sent to the participants selected and invited to take part in the course.

Phase 2 – Follow-up

The participants will be expected to put into practice the knowledge and competences gained by developing and implementing a human rights education activity throughout and following the course, with the support of the Council of Europe Youth Department.

Profile of participants

The training course is designed for participants who are:

- a) Committed to the values of the Council of Europe, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law;
- b) Motivated to learn and develop as youth trainers and multipliers and intend to support, implement, and/or advocate for human rights education activities and programmes in Serbia;
- c) Active in youth or other NGOs concerned with human rights, initiatives, or youth projects; candidates engaged in formal education with young people are also encouraged to apply.
- d) Aged above 18 years;
- e) Able to work autonomously in Serbian;
- f) Residing in Serbia.

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

Application procedure and selection of participants

All candidates must apply on-line at http://youthapplications.coe.int.

The full application form must be submitted on-line by 23:59 (CET), on 22 October 2023.

The Council of Europe will select up to 25 participants based on the profile outlined above. It will try to ensure a balance between genders, geographical regions, different types of experiences, cultural backgrounds, organisations, and projects. A waiting list may be established. Candidates will be informed whether their application has been accepted or rejected, and if they have been put on the waiting list, by 24 October 2023.

Financial and practical conditions of participation

Travel expenses

Travel expenses will be reimbursed by the Council of Europe according to the rules in place. Only participants who attend the entire training course can be reimbursed.

Accommodation

Board and lodging for the training course will be provided and paid for by the Council of Europe.

Working languages

The working language of the training course is Serbian, with interpretation to English provided on need basis.

Further information

For any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Youth Department of the Council of Europe at eyc.programme@coe.int.