

European Youth Foundation

Supporting Young People
and Youth Organisations



The EYF supports youth co-operation by providing financial support to European activities that promote of peace, understanding and co-operation between young people of Europe and the world, in a spirit of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND YOUTH

The Council of Europe aims to uphold human rights, democracy and the rule of law across the European continent. It emerged in 1949 from the ashes of World War II and is Europe's oldest political organisation. Today, it includes 46 member states.

THE YOUTH SECTOR'S MISSION

The youth sector's mission is to "enable young people across Europe to actively uphold, defend, promote and benefit from the Council of Europe's core values".

It does this through inter-governmental co-operation on youth policy, training and education programmes related to human rights and democracy, campaign and co-operation projects, development of research, and support to projects of youth organisations.

THE PRIORITIES OF THE YOUTH SECTOR:

- ▶ **revitalising pluralistic democracy**, promoting democratic citizenship, participatory policies, removing barriers to participation;
- ▶ **young people's access to rights**, supporting the implementation of the Council of Europe's standards in this field, promoting human rights education;
- ▶ **living together in peaceful and inclusive societies**, countering discrimination, violence and exclusion, and promoting European unity, global solidarity, peace, diversity, intercultural and intergenerational dialogue and environmental sustainability;
- ▶ **youth work**, strengthening, recognising and advancing youth work, improving its quality, and extending the access and attractiveness of youth work.

(Youth sector strategy 2030)

In the Council of Europe's youth sector, representatives of youth organisations make decisions as equal partners together with government representatives on youth priorities, programmes and policies.



THE EUROPEAN YOUTH FOUNDATION

The EYF provides financial and educational support to youth projects of youth organisations developed by, with and for young people, from the member states of the Council of Europe and the States Parties to the European Cultural Convention.

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) is a fund set up by the Council of Europe in 1972.

**The EYF's guiding principle:
BY, WITH and FOR young people.**

THE EYF AT A GLANCE

- ▶ A fund supporting youth activities, youth work and youth organisations in Europe
- ▶ An instrument of the Council of Europe's youth sector to promote the Organisation's values and priorities
- ▶ A partner for local, national, and international non-governmental youth organisations and networks, to strengthen civil society.

EVERY YEAR

- ▶ The EYF supports around 200 youth projects
- ▶ EYF funded projects reach about 15 000 young people
- ▶ The EYF distributes around 3.5 million euros in grants to youth NGOs.

The EYF is based in Strasbourg, France, and its offices are situated at the European Youth Centre. The EYF is part of the Youth Department of the Directorate for Democracy. The working languages of the EYF are English and French.



WHAT DOES THE EYF SUPPORT?

- ▶ Activities designed to strengthen peace and co-operation among young people, encourage networking, exchange, and mutual support
- ▶ Youth projects in line with the values, principles, and priorities of the youth sector of the Council of Europe
- ▶ A variety of activities including awareness-raising campaigns, capacity-building activities, research, online tools, and educational or information materials.

The EYF supports projects that:

- ▶ involve primarily young people aged 15 – 30;
- ▶ are based on the needs and aspirations of young people;
- ▶ have a European dimension;
- ▶ have a non-formal education approach;
- ▶ take into account gender equality and inclusion of marginalised groups.

THE EYF DOES NOT SUPPORT

Activities such as commercial projects, statutory meetings, humanitarian aid, sport events, construction work, tourism, or scholarships.

WHO CAN APPLY FOR EYF GRANTS?

Youth NGOs from member states of the Council of Europe and the States Parties to the European Cultural Convention:

- ▶ national or local youth NGOs;
- ▶ international youth NGOs present in at least seven countries;
- ▶ international networks of youth NGOs from at least seven countries;
- ▶ regional networks of youth NGOs from 4-6 countries.

The organisations applying must:

- ▶ be non-profit and non-governmental;
- ▶ have their own statutes;
- ▶ be youth-led: run by and for young people aged 15-30;
- ▶ work in line with the Council of Europe's values and principles.



EYF GRANTS

The EYF provides four types of grants:

- ▶ grants to local or national projects (pilot activities) that address the challenges young people face and their needs at local level;
- ▶ grants to international activities. These are meetings of young people or youth leaders which have a clear European dimension;
- ▶ grants to international youth NGOs and networks in support of their annual work plans (sets of successive and interconnected activities) over a period of one year;
- ▶ structural grants to international youth NGOs and networks to cover their general administrative costs.

EYF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

The EYF provides:

- ▶ advice to youth NGOs to clarify and improve their project proposals submitted to the EYF;
- ▶ educational and capacity-building support to youth NGOs to strengthen the quality of their projects;
- ▶ information sessions to update beneficiaries and partners on developments;
- ▶ tools to improve the quality of youth projects.

HOW TO APPLY FOR EYF GRANTS – STEP BY STEP

1. Registration with the EYF: submit a registration request in the EYF online system (fej.coe.int).
2. Submission of a grant application online at the specific deadlines.
3. Assessment of the submitted application. The process can involve communication with the applicant NGO to clarify their proposal.
4. Decision on the application by the Programming Committee on Youth, a co-managed statutory body of the youth sector, formed by eight youth NGOs and eight governmental representatives.

EUROPEAN YOUTH FOUNDATION

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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

