



DDP-YD ETD (2023) 231

Budapest, 6 October 2023

Study session

“The end of democracy? You(th) to the rescue!”

Study session organised within the [Youth for Democracy programme](#)
in cooperation with [The International Federation of Liberal Youth \(IFLRY\)](#)

European Youth Centre Budapest, 9-13 October

Draft Programme

Sunday, 8th of October 2023

Arrival day

19:00 - 20:30 Dinner

Monday, 9 October 2023

- 09:30 – 10:00 Opening.
Introduction to study session, overview of the programme, and practicalities.
- 10:00 – 10:30 Welcome to the Council of Europe and European Youth Centre Budapest (EYCB) by Marcos ANDRADE (Deputy Director of EYCB).

- 10:30 - 11:00 Mapping aims and objectives, expectations for the study session
Intro to IFLRY
- 11:00 - 11:30 Coffee-break*
- 11:30 - 13:00 Group-building
- 13:00 - 14:30 Lunch*
- 14:30 - 16:00 Democracy crisis: what do we mean by that? And effects on youth participation and civic space by external speaker Sven GERST (External expert, King's College)
- 16:00 - 16:30 Coffee break*
- 16:30 - 18:00 A look back home: experience-sharing between participants
- 18:00 - 18:30 Home group (reflection)
- 19:00 - 20:00 Dinner*
- 21:00 Cultural evening

Tuesday, 10 October 2023

- 09:30 – 09:45 Opening the day
- 09:45 – 11:00 Expression and assembly: how democracies rely on civic spaces and human rights, youth participation.
- 11:00 - 11:30 Coffee-break*
- 11:30 - 13:00 Expert roundtable with Barna Biro, Vice President - Momentum TizenX. And Luis Cano, Momentum Mozgalom campaigner) - democracy in crisis: the case of Hungary
- 13:00 - 14:30 Lunch*
- 14:30 - 16:00 Mapping challenges - a group exercise
- 16:00 - 16:30 Coffee break*
- 16:30 - 18:00 Practical exercise: the freedom of association
- 18:00 - 18:30 Home Group (Reflection)
- 19:00 - 20:00 Dinner*

Wednesday, 11 October 2023

- 09:30 – 13:00 Field visit, governmental institution
- 13:00 - 14:30 Lunch*
- 14:30 - 16:00 Alternative democracy - enforcing democratic values in crises. How to maintain liberties in shrinking democracies (sharing best practices), focus on youth participation
- 16:00 - 16:30 Break*
- 16:30 - 18:00 Skills lab: empowering members through advocacy, awareness, and youth participation to promote pluralism
- 18:00 - 18:30 Home Group (Reflection)
- 19:00 - 20:00 Dinner*

Thursday, 12 October 2023

- 09:30 – 09:45 Opening
09:45 - 11:00 Council of Europe resources supporting youth civic space with Ida KREUTZMAN (Educational Advisor at EYCB)
11:00 - 11:30 Coffee-break
11:30 - 13:00 Developing action plans (project proposals)
13:00 - 14:30 Lunch
14:30 - 18:00 Project working time
18:00 - 18:30 Home Group (Reflection)
19:00 - 20:00 Dinner

Friday, 13 October 2023

- 09:30 – 09:45 Opening
09:45 - 11:00 Development of action plans.
Preparation for the presentations
11:00 - 11:30 Coffee-break
11:30 - 13:00 Presentation of action plans. feedback and evaluation of project ideas
13:00 - 14:30 Lunch
14:30 - 16:00 Presentation of action plans cont. feedback and evaluation of project ideas
16:00 - 16:30 *Coffee-break*
16:30 - 17:30 Follow-up planning, how do you continue?
17:30 - 18:15 Study session evaluation, debriefing and conclusions
18:15 - 19:00 Closing ceremony
19:00 - 20:00 Dinner
21:00 - Farewell evening

Saturday, 14 October 2023

Departures

Aim and objectives of the study session “ *The end of democracy? You(th) to the rescue!*”

To encourage youth to influentially participate in politics and society in order to maintain, protect and, increase democracy by providing them with knowledge, tools, increasing self-esteem, access to a global/European network and strengthening their skills.

Objectives:

- 1. Understand recent civic space cutbacks' impact on democracy and youth. Analyse trends, emphasising democratic implications like non-governmental organisations' funding and freedom of speech.*
- 2. Examine civic spaces' role in sustainable youth participation, freedom of speech, and social inclusion, emphasising long-term impact.*
- 3. Identify and mitigate barriers to youth engagement, including formal, financial, and informational obstacles.*
- 4. Explore the threats and challenges to the freedom of assembly in diverse and pluralistic societies.*
- 5. Manage tensions and promote harmony through:
 - a. Education and awareness to reduce stereotypes,*
 - b. Inclusive policies for equal rights and opportunities,*
 - c. Open dialogue for finding common ground,*
 - d. Celebrating diversity for social cohesion,*
 - e. Diverse leadership for addressing marginalised concerns.**
- 6. Support effective transfer of study session experience to the work of participants' organisations or advocacy work.*