



DFD-YD/ETD (2024) 96

Budapest, 4 April 2024

## Study session

“Rural Youth Work 101: Advancing the inclusion of rural youth in Europe through volunteering and rural community-building”

Study session organised within the [Youth for Democracy programme](#)  
in cooperation with [Rural Youth Europe](#)

European Youth Centre Budapest, room BC

22-26 April 2024

**Draft Programme**

## **Sunday, 21 April 2024**

Arrival of participants  
19:00 Dinner  
20:30 Welcome evening

## **Monday, 22 April 2024 - Introduction**

09:15 Social and Content Introduction  
09:30 Opening with Introduction to Study Session

Welcome by Balint MOLNAR, executive director of the European Youth Centre Budapest

11:00 Break

11:30 Framework and Expectations – *introducing participants to the Council of Europe and Rural Youth Europe, the program, defining learning goals and collecting expectations*

13:00 Lunch

14:30 Team Building adventure - *Getting to know each other and the venue to build trust and a safer space*

16:00 Break

16:30 What is Youth Work? - *Gathering participants concepts of youth work and volunteering and comparing them to existing definitions*

17:30 Reflection group

19:00 Dinner

20:30 International Evening

## **Tuesday, 23 April 2024 – Exploring Challenges and Evolution of Rural Youth Work**

09:15 Social and Content Introduction

09:30 Rural Dimension of Youth work - *Exploring the special characteristics of RURAL youth work by comparing the youth work in the participants' home organisations*

11:00 Break

11:30 Map of Challenges - *Identifying and categorising the challenges in rural youth work and volunteering*

13:00 Lunch break

14:30 Timeline and Vision of Rural Youth Work - *Defining the past and status quo situation to envision the future of rural youth work and volunteering.*

16:00 Break

16:30 Accessibility and Inclusion in Rural Youth Work - *Recognising the diversity of rural youth and finding possible actions in youth work and volunteering to boost inclusion and accessibility*

18:00 Reflection Groups

19:00 Dinner

20:30 Quiz and Karaoke

### **Wednesday, 24 April 2024 - Grassroots Practises**

09:15 Social and Content Introduction

09:30 "Professionals in Rural Youth Work" Lecture by Daniela Hinteregger, Landjugend Österreich  
*Learning about success factors from practise with paid/unpaid youth workers, professional/beginner youth workers, Supporting structures and on different levels of youth work (local, regional, national)*

11:00 Break

11:30 Spotlight: Sharing Inspirations from your own Practise

13:00 Lunch

Free Afternoon in the city

19:00 Dinner out in the city

### **Thursday, 25 April 2024 – Measures and Frameworks**

09:15 Social and Content Introduction

09:30 Navigating Success: Decoding Youth Work Practises - *Defining building blocks for successful youth work by analysing, sorting and detailing the presented practises, actions, activities and learnings from the past days.*

11:00 Break

11:30 Creating a Toolkit - *Assembling a Toolkit with activities, actions and practises to improve rural youth work on local level and boost community building*

13:00 Lunch break

14:30 Empowering Rural Youth: Insights from the Advisory Council on Youth with Eva Kotnik, Member of the Advisory Council on Youth, Council of Europe  
*Introducing the Advisory Council on Youth and the drafting process of the CM Recommendation on social, economic, and political participation of rural youth*

16:00 Break

16:30 Blueprints for Progress with Eva KOTNIK

*Exploring key measures of the recommendation and generating proposals for the next draft from the defined challenges*

17:30 Reflection Groups

19:00 Dinner

20:30 Disco Night

### **Friday, 26 April 2024 – Moving Forward**

09:15 Social and Content Intro

09:30 Empowering Voices - *Drafting policy recommendations based on previous discussions and learning how to follow up with those after returning back home.*

11:00 Break

11:30 Creating Sound and Memories with Daniel Grist, freelance Podcaster  
*Learning about use of podcasting as a tool to advocate for marginalised groups. Reflecting the week with pictures and videos*

13:00 Lunch

14:30 Evaluating your Learning Journey - *Harvesting Learning outcomes, gaining valuable insights and contributing to continuous improvement of Youth Activities like the Study Session*

16:00 Break

16:30 Closing - *Enabling final personal exchange and connecting the participants as a team for future cooperation; handing out certificates.*

19:00 Dinner

20:30 Free Evening and Farewell

### **Saturday 27 April 2024**

Departure of participants

## **Aim and objectives of the study session “Rural Youth Work 101”**

### **Aim**

To address and rediscuss youth work in rural areas (rural youth work) and volunteering as tools for promoting and advancing the socio-political inclusion of rural youth in Europe today.

The study session will raise awareness and build the capacities of our participants as changemakers who actively contribute to building more inclusive and peaceful societies across Europe. This is particularly important in rural areas after the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Objectives:**

1. To raise awareness on the importance of rural youth work and explore how rural youth work evolved over the last years, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. To exchange ideas, experiences and knowledge among the participants in relation to, resilient rural youth work and community-building.
3. To create a toolkit of good examples and best practices of youth activities for rural community-building.
4. To draft policy recommendations on enhancing rural youth work in Europe.
5. To enable the participants to act as multipliers in their local rural communities, spreading the outcomes of this study session.