



DFD-YD/ETD (2025) 51

Strasbourg, 11 March 2025

Study session

“WE too: Workcamp Equality too! Creating a safer and more encouraging international youth projects for LGBTQIA+ youth”

Study session organised within the [Youth for Democracy programme](#) in cooperation with the [Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations](#) (Alliance)

European Youth Centre, room 0.1

Strasbourg, France

24-28 March 2025

DRAFT PROGRAMME



Sunday, 23 March 2025

Arrival of participants

19:00 Dinner

21:00 Welcome evening: ice breakers, name games

Monday, 24 March 2025

08:15 – 09:15

Registrations at lobby area of the European Youth Centre

09:30 Introduction:

 Name games and getting to know each other

 Expectations, fears, hopes and contributions

11:00 Break

11:30 Official opening and welcome with Tobias FLESSENKEMPER, Head of the Youth Department, Council of Europe

 Introduction to Study Session:

 Introduction to the Alliance -what is Alliance,

 Daily program of the study session and presentation of aims and objectives

13:00 Lunch

15:00 Safe(r) Space creation: from individual definition to common agreement

16:30 Break

17:00 Common ground on LGBTQIA+ issues: setting a common ground on the study session topics

18:30 Reflection group

19:00 Dinner

21:00 (More) getting to know each other activities and intercultural evening

Tuesday, 25 March 2025

09:30 International Voluntary Service (IVS) and the Alliance:
Common ground on human rights and values of IVS,
Alliance structure and main events

11:00 Break

11:30 LGBTQIA+ issues in our countries: share the history and issues of LGBTQIA+ people in our countries

13:00 Lunch break

15:00 LGBTQIA+ issues in our countries: learning from the Council of Europe work
with *WV*, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression, and Sex
Characteristics (SOGIESC) Unit, Council of Europe

16:30 Break

17:00 Challenges for LGBTQIA+ volunteers: collect and prioritise challenges that
may appear in IVS activities and workcamps

18:30 Reflection Group

19:00 Dinner

21:00 Open Space: participants can propose up to 3 workshops on topics and
methodologies that are not tackled during the study session

Wednesday, 26 March 2025

09:30 From Challenges to Solutions (step 1):
Analysing possible case studies and finding solutions related to the challenges
defined in the previous sessions

11:00 Break

11:30 From Challenges to Solutions (step 2):
Analyse how different actors can intervene in finding solutions

Debriefing and closing

13:00 Lunch break

15:00 Reflection Groups

15:30 Free afternoon and dinner outside

Thursday, 27 March 2025

09:30 Good practices in IVS:
Sharing best practices from Alliance and IVS regarding the accessibility and inclusion of LGBTQIA+ volunteers

11:00 Break

11:30 Group work (step 1): participants divide in 4-5 groups to find possible tools to develop to ensure a safe(r) space in workcamps

13:00 Lunch break

15:00 Group work (step 2): participants work in their groups to develop their tools

16:30 Break

17:00 Check in and group work (step 3): participants work in their groups to develop their tools

18:30 Check in and Reflection Group

19:00 Dinner

21:00 Open Space: participants can propose up to 3 workshops on topics and methodologies that are not tackled during the Study Session

Friday, 28 March 2025

09:30 Finalisation of group work and feedback session on tools

11:00 Break

11:30 Follow up and implementation of tools: creating a roadmap on how to implement the tools developed, both at individual, organisation and network levels

13:00 Lunch break

15:00 Final evaluation
Questionnaire
Group evaluation

16:30 Break

17:00 Farewell party preparation: participants are given the task of setting up the farewell evening, preparing activities for their fellow participants

18:30 Packing luggage

19:00 Dinner

21:00 Farewell evening

Saturday 29 March 2025

Departure of participants

Aim and objectives of the study session “WE too: Workcamp Equality too! Creating a safer and more encouraging international youth projects for LGBTQIA+ youth”

Aim:

This study session aims to ensure that International voluntary Service (IVS) projects, particularly workcamps, are inclusive, safe and welcoming spaces for LGBTQIA+ youth; to address the barriers faced by LGBTQIA+ youth throughout their entire IVS volunteering journey; and to increase the participation of LGBTQIA+ youth in IVS projects.

Objectives:

1. **Gather insights and lived experiences:** For LGBTQIA+ volunteers, allies and IVS practitioners to share their experiences and collectively identify the challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ youth in accessing and participating in IVS programmes.
2. **Share best practices:** To disseminate best practices, approaches, and expertise that effectively promote the safety and inclusion of LGBTQIA+ youth within IVS activities, particularly within the context of workcamps.
3. **Develop collaborative solutions:** To collaboratively explore, create, and support the development of new resources and materials that will enhance the

safety and inclusivity of workcamps for LGBTQIA+ youth and bring them in the toolbox of change for IVS networks.

4. **Empower action:** To empower participants to utilise the insights and resources generated during the study session to implement meaningful changes within their respective IVS networks resulting in more inclusive, safe, and welcoming spaces for LGBTQIA+ youth.