

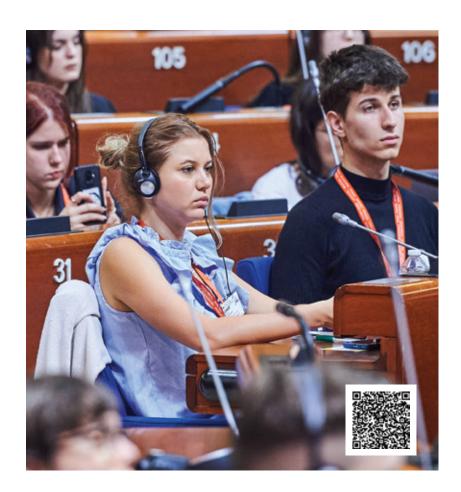




YOUNG PEOPLE IN LOCAL AND REGIONAL LIFE:

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION!

European Youth Conference, 5-7 February 2025, Braga, Portugal



In partnership with:









4 FEB

ARRIVAL DAY AT BRAGA YOUTH CENTRE

14:00 - 21:00 Registration of participants at BYC

19:00 Dinner

20:00 Welcome activities



5 FEB

REALITIES OF YOUTH PARTICIPATION AT LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL



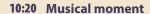
09:30 OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

Ricardo RIO, Mayor of Braga

Luís GUEDES, Municipal Youth Council of Braga

Veronique BERTHOLLE, Congress Spokesperson on Youth, Deputy Mayor of Strasbourg

Nina GRMUŠA, Chair of Joint Council on Youth of the Council of Europe



Mafalda MARTINS, winner of Braga Young Talents Awards

10:30 INTRODUCTION TO THE PROGRAMME, expected results and methodology of the European Youth Conference

(Getting to know each other)

11:00 Break



11:30 EXPLORING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN OUR LOCAL AND REGIONAL REALITIES

Parallel groups



– 13:00 Lunch



- 14:30 EXPLORING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN OUR REALITIES - Parallel groups continued

16:00 Break



- 16:30 CONCLUSIONS OF THE EXPLORATION OF THE REALITIES OF YOUTH PARTICIPATION

Information about the evening



— 19:00 Dinner

20:15 Informal evening with youth civil society







6 FEB

THE CHARTER — STRENGTHENING YOUTH PARTICIPATION



— 09:30 YOUNG PEOPLE REVITALISING DEMOCRACY: the role of the Council of Europe in anchoring democratic values

Matjaž GRUDEN, Director for Democracy, Council of Europe

10:00 INTRODUCTION TO THE PROCESS AND MAIN REVISIONS OF THE CHARTER on the participation of young people in local and regional life

Zsuzsanna RUTAI, expert of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

Ruxandra PANDEA, Youth Department, Council of Europe

10:40 INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKING GROUPS ON THE CHARTER REVISION



11:00 Coffee break

11:30 WORKING GROUPS ON THE REVISED TEXT OF THE EUROPEAN CHARTER on the participation of young people in local and regional life

- **1.** Youth participation and its principles EN
- **2.** Young people have rights EN
- **3.** Young people have structures and spaces for youth participation EN FR
- **4.** Youth perspectives in policy making EN
- **5.** Young people have tools, opportunities and full support for participation EN
- **6.** Dissemination, evaluation and review of the Charter and Introduction EN







- 13:00 Lunch

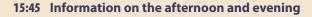
14:30 WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

15:10 NEXT STEPS IN THE PROCESS OF REVISION OF THE CHARTER

Aida KARIMLI, rapporteur of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

Eva KOTNIK, Advisory Council on Youth

Riccardo VENTURINI, European Steering Committee on Youth







16:00 DISCOVER BRAGA FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES – CITY TOURS BY CIVIL SOCIETY

Braga and student participation – offered by AUMinho, Academic Association of the University of Minho

Youth social intervention in Braga – offered by Youth Red Cross – Delegation of Braga

Youth work in Braga – offered by Youth Department of Braga's Municipality and FAJUB

MEETING POINTS



Braga Youth Centre: Rua S. Margarida / Largo Senhora-A-Branca

Hotel Vila Galé: Rua do Raio (Bus Stop) **Forum Braga:** Main Entrance of Forum Braga



TO DINNER:

18h45 BYC ⇒ Hotel ⇒ Forum

19h00 Hotel ⇒ Forum

19h30 Hotel ⇒ Forum

FROM DINNER:

23h00 Forum ⇒ Hotel

23h00 Forum ⇒ Hotel ⇒ BYC

23h30 Forum ⇒ Hotel

6 FEB

THE CHARTER — STRENGTHENING YOUTH PARTICIPATION



- 19:30 YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND SOLIDARITY

Margarida BALSEIRO LOPES, Minister of Youth and Modernisation of Portugal

Maryna MYKHAILENKO, Ambassador of Ukraine to Portugal Nina GRMUŠA, Chair of the Joint Council on Youth

Launch of the photo exhibition "BETWEEN LIGHT AND DARKNESS" - Konstantin and Vlada
LIBEROVIH, Yurka DYACHYSHYN

SERENATA with SINA - Grupo de Fados da Associação Académica da Universidade do Minho

Dinner offered by Portuguese Institute for Sports and Youth (IPDJ)



7 FEB

WHAT'S NEXT?



09:30 Introduction to the day

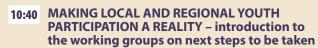
09:45 SOLIDARITY WITH UKRAINE AND LVIV EUROPEAN YOUTH CAPITAL

Andriy CHESNOKOV, Deputy Minister for Youth and Sports of Ukraine

Andriy MOSKALENKO, Deputy Mayor of Lviv

Maria BOVSUNOVSKA, Head of Lviv - European Youth Capital 2025 project

Sina RIZ À PORTA, board member, European Youth Forum





11:00 Coffee break

11:30 PARALLEL WORKING GROUPS ON PROPOSALS FOR THE FOLLOW-UP

- **1.** Developing a platform for local and regional youth participation EN
- **2.** Capacity building for youth councils and authorities EN/FR
- **3.** Educational resources on youth participation EN
- **4.** Information and dissemination of the Charter EN
- **5.** Advocacy and policy measures in support of the Charter implementation EN
- **6.** Making youth participation playfull, fun and enjoyable EN



— 13:00 Lunch

14:30 WORKING GROUPS CONTINUED





— 15:30 WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

16:15 Coffee break

16:40 Dance participatory performance by ENT'ARTES "HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL"

17:00 CLOSING SESSION

Jorge ORLANDO QUEIROS, European Steering Committee on Youth

Fernando VIEIRA, President, National Federation of Youth Associations

Veronique BERTHOLLE, Congress Spokesperson on Youth and Deputy Mayor of Strasbourg

Sina RIZ À PORTA, board member, European Youth Forum

Tobias FLESSENKEMPER, Head of the Youth Department, Council of Europe



20:00 Dinner at Bom Jesus

Musical moment with TUM – Tuna Universitária do Minho



Farewell Party: Setra Bar

Evening offered by the Municipality of Braga

8 FEB

DEPARTURE DAY

MEETING POINTS



Braga Youth Centre: Rua S. Margarida / Largo Senhora-A-Branca

Hotel Vila Galé: Rua do Raio (Bus Stop) **Forum Braga:** Main Entrance of Forum Braga

SETRA Bar: Largo de Santa Cruz



TO DINNER:

18h45 Hotel ⇒ Bom Jesus

18h50 Hotel ⇒ BYC ⇒ Bom Jesus

19h35 Hotel ⇒ ⇒ Bom Jesus

21h10 Tuna ⇒ Bom Jesus

FROM DINNER:

23h15 Bom Jesus ⇒ Setra

23h35 Bom Jesus ⇒ Setra

00h05 Bom Jesus ⇒ Setra

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The European Youth Conference takes place in Braga, between 5 and 7 February and is co-organised by the Council of Europe Youth Department and the Braga Youth Centre, and in partnership with the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, the Municipality of Braga, the Portuguese Institute for Sports and Youth and the European Youth Forum.

The conference aims to strengthen youth participation in decision making at local and regional levels, and therefore contribute to the revitalisation of democracy. It will bring together approximatively 130 young representatives of local and regional youth councils, youth civil society and local authorities to learn from practices of youth democratic participation and to take part in the consultations concerning the revision of the European Charter on the participation of young people in local and regional life carried by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities in partnership with the Joint Council on Youth.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference aims to strengthen youth participation in decision-making at local and regional levels, and therefore contribute to the revitalisation of democracy. The objectives of the conference are:

- To discuss the practices, challenges and opportunities for youth participation in decision-making at local and regional levels with view to critically reflect and learn from each other:
- To provide participants the opportunity to contribute to the revision of the European Charter on the participation of young people in local and regional life;
- To reflect on and prepare the grounds for the future implementation of the revised Charter and the possible support measures for young people, local youth councils and organisations, as well as local authorities;
- To learn about youth realities in Braga and the initiatives on youth participation of the municipality;
- To motivate participants to take action to strengthen the local youth participation in the follow-up of the conference.

