

Programme

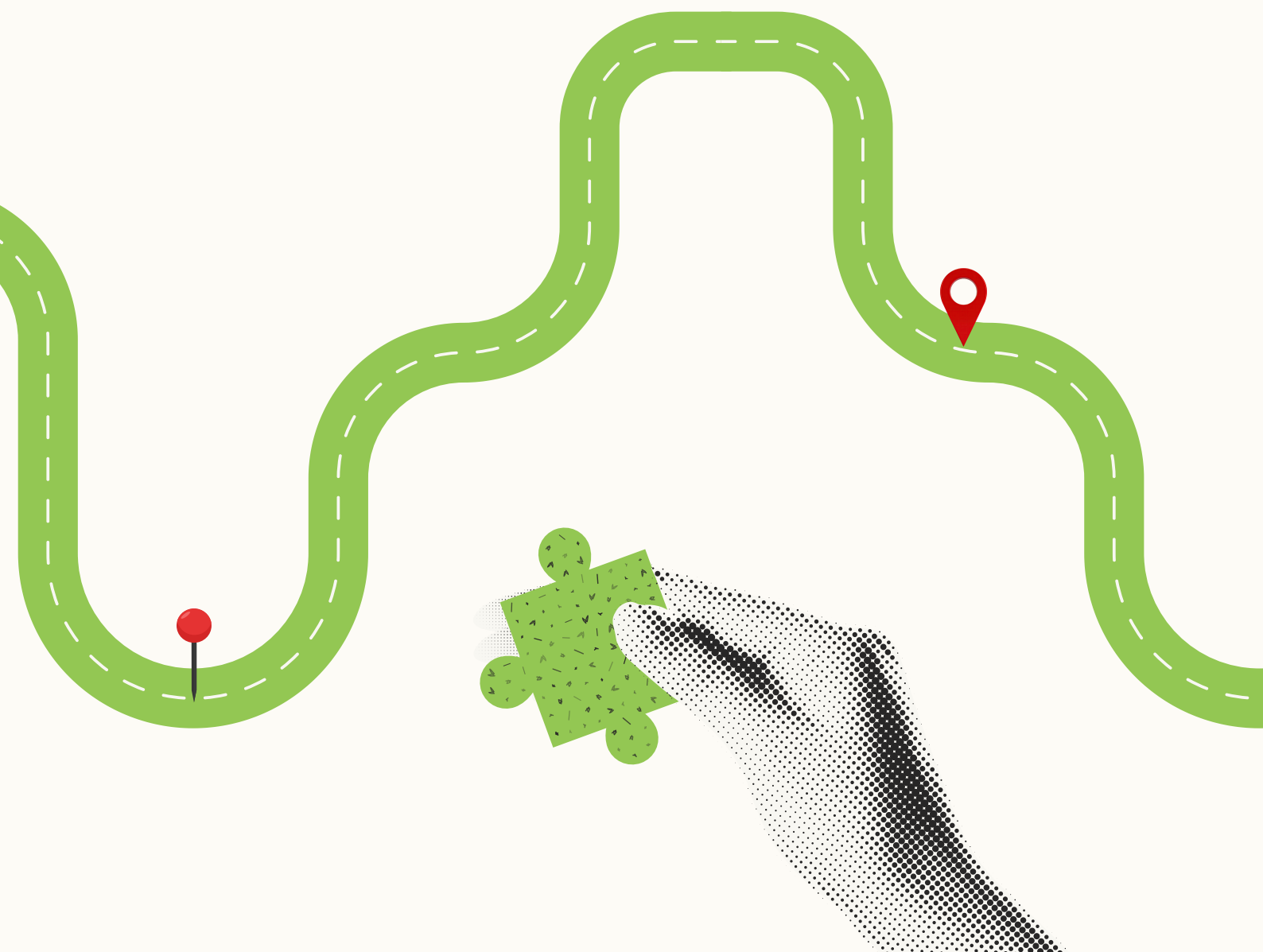
CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP: DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY AND CITIZENS' ASSEMBLIES

How to start?



18-21 OCTOBER 2026

EUROPEAN YOUTH CENTRE BUDAPEST



18 OCTOBER (SUNDAY)

18:30

Dinner

20:00

Welcome to the workshop (ground floor, Nordic room)

19 OCTOBER (MONDAY)

8:00

Registration (ground floor, lobby)

9:00

Welcome (Room A, 4th floor)

- Bálint Molnár, *Executive Director, European Youth Centre Budapest, Council of Europe*
- Niall Sheerin, *Head of the Centre of Expertise of Multilevel Governance and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities*
- Éva Bördős, *Executive Director, DemNet*

9:50

Opening remarks

Matjaž Gruden, *Director for Democracy, Council of Europe*

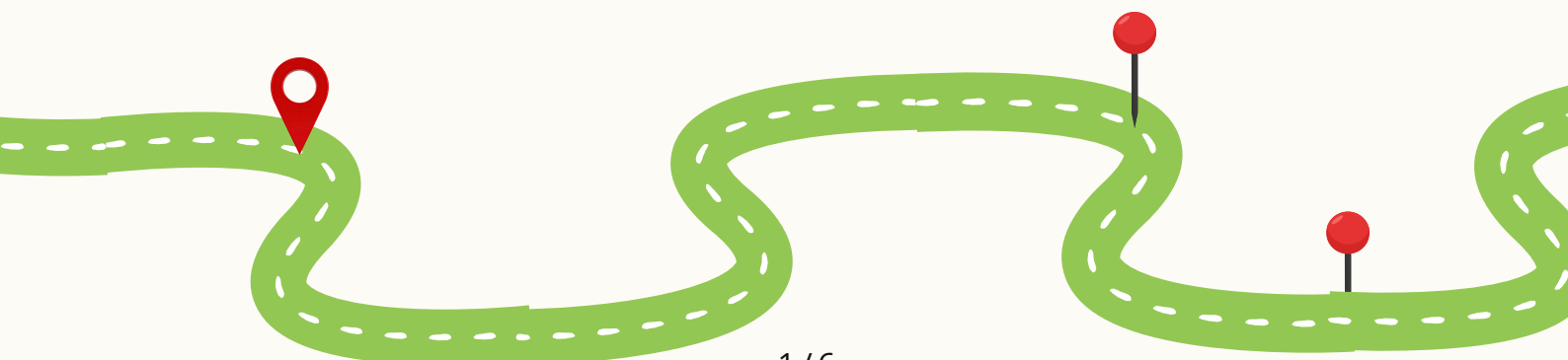
10:05

Participation, deliberation and citizens' assemblies

Cornelia Perle, *DemNet*

10:30

Group photo



19 OCTOBER (MONDAY)

10:40

Coffee break

11:00

The European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life and youth participation at local and regional level

Bilal Leutrim, *Congress Youth Delegate of North Macedonia*

Marcos Andrade, *Deputy Executive Director, European Youth Centre Budapest, Council of Europe*

Moderator: Cornelia Perle, *DemNet*

11:50

Planning a citizens' assembly

Éva Bördős, *Executive Director, DemNet*

12:45

Lunch

14:00

Youth assembly on mental health – a case study from Switzerland

Konstanze Mohr, *Project Associate, Pro Futuris*

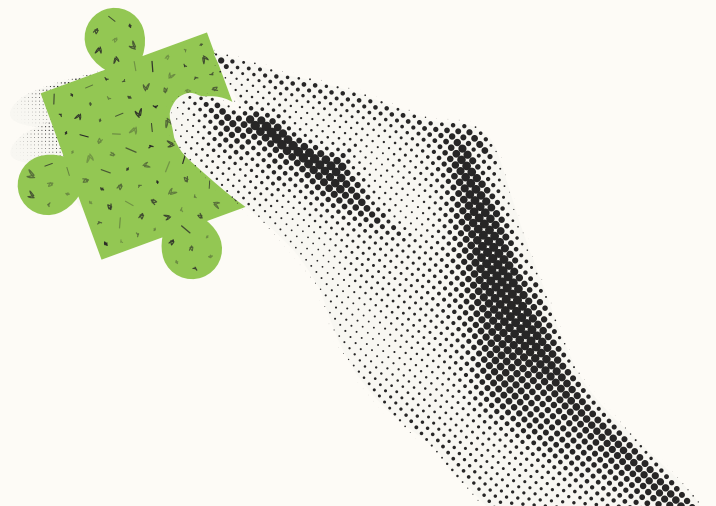
15:00

Introduction to the public roundtable

Cornelia Perle, *DemNet*

15:30

Coffee break



19 OCTOBER (MONDAY)

16:00

Public roundtable on deliberative democracy and citizens' assemblies

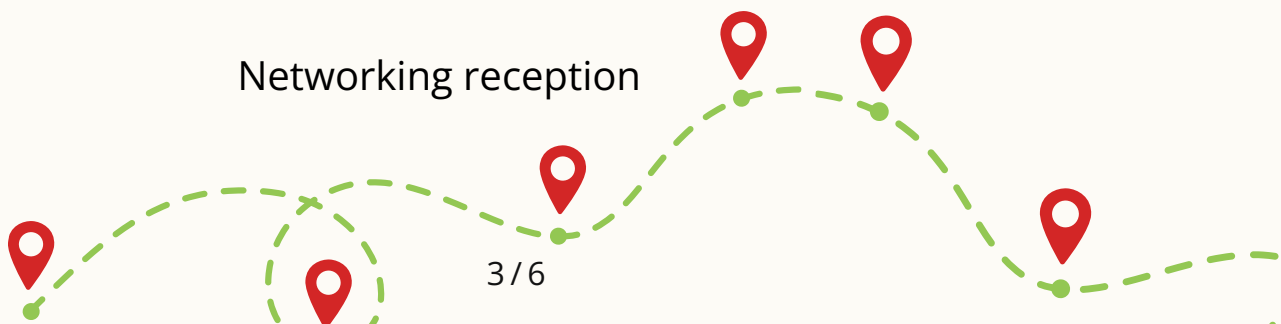
Opening keynote by George Papandreou, *former Prime Minister of Greece, Member of the Hellenic Parliament and General Rapporteur on Democracy for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe* (via video link)

Panelists:

- Leutrim Bilali, *Congress Youth Delegate of North Macedonia to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities*
- Volodymyr Hrebonkin, *Acting Head, Department of Strategic Development and Investments, Rivne City Council, and Senior Lecturer, Department of Management and Public Governance, at the National University of Water and Environmental Engineering*
- Anita Kaderják, *Head of the Department for Social Dialogue and Participation, Ministry of Education and Family Affairs of Hungary*
- Đani Rahimić, *President of the City Council of Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina*
- Dr. Gabriella Virágh, *Member of the Hungarian National Assembly and member of the Hungarian delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe*

18:00

Networking reception



20 OCTOBER (TUESDAY)

- 9:00** Welcome and recap

Cornelia Perle, *DemNet*
- 9:20** Planning a citizens' assembly: recruitment and inclusion

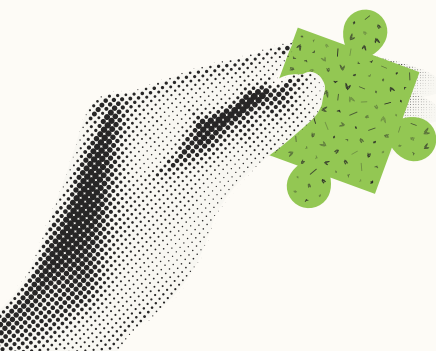
Éva Bördős, *Executive Director, DemNet*
Siniša Marčetić, *Citizen Assembly facilitator, Banja Luka*
- 11:05** Coffee break
- 11:30** Planning a citizens' assembly: set-up and delivery I.

Éva Bördős, *Executive Director, DemNet*
Katie Reid, *Adviser, Child Rights International Network*
- 12:15** Planning a citizens' assembly: set-up and delivery II.

Szilvia Zsargó, Eszter Dalos, Katalin Faix, *DemNet*
- 13:00** Lunch
- 14:15** Building local authority support for citizens' assemblies

Szilvia Zsargó, Eszter Dalos, Katalin Faix, *DemNet*
- 15:00** Follow-up and engagement with public administration

Éva Bördős, *Executive Director, DemNet*
Đani Rahimić, *President, City Council, Mostar*



20 OCTOBER (TUESDAY)

15:45

Coffee break

16:15

From design to impact: making citizens' assemblies successful

Szilvia Zsargó, Eszter Dalos, Katalin Faix, *DemNet*

17:00

Lessons from practice

Konstanze Mohr, *Project Associate, Pro Futuris*

Katie Reid, *Adviser, Child Rights International Network*

Eva Bördős, *Executive Director, DemNet*

Siniša Marčetić, *Citizen Assembly facilitator, Banja Luka*

17:40

Reflection

Szilvia Zsargó, Eszter Dalos, Katalin Faix, *DemNet*

18:30

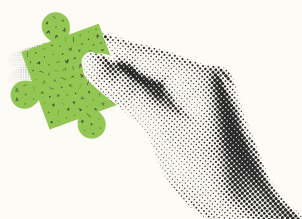
Dinner

21 OCTOBER (WEDNESDAY)

9:00

Welcome and recap

Cornelia Perle, *DemNet*



21 OCTOBER (WEDNESDAY)

9:20

Why the local level matters: local and municipal deliberative processes

- Đani Rahimić, *City Council, Mostar*
- Volodymyr Hrebonkin, *Acting Head, Department of Strategic Development and Investments, Rivne City Council*

Moderated by Natalia Militello, *Project Coordinator, Centre of Expertise of Multilevel Governance and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities*

10:00

Key takeaways and exchange

Cornelia Perle, Szilvia Zsargó, Eszter Dalos, Katalin Faix, *DemNet*

10:25

Evaluation and follow-up

10:40

Closing remarks

- Éva Bördős, *Executive Director, DemNet*;
- Bálint Molnár, *Executive Director, EYC Budapest, Council of Europe*;
- Natalia Militello, *Project Coordinator, Centre of Expertise of Multilevel Governance and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities*

12:00

Lunch

