



Ref number: DDP-YD/ ETCD (2026)43

Budapest, 3 March 2026

Study session

“From Scroll to Action: media literacy for rural youth empowerment”

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

European Youth Centre Budapest, room A
9 - 13 March 2026

Draft Programme

Sunday, 8 March 2026

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

Monday, 9 March 2026 - Introduction and Building a Collaborative and Safe Learning Environment

09:00 Welcome speeches and Introduction to RYE and CoE.
09:15 Welcome by Balint MOLNAR, executive director of the European Youth Centre Budapest
10:45 Break

11:15 Introduction, Expectations and Learning Framework – *Exploring Aims, Objectives, NFE Approach, and Group Agreements*

12:45 Lunch

14:30 Team Building activity – *Getting to Know Each Other and the EYCB*

16:00 Break

16:30 Intro to Media Literacy – *Building a Common Understanding of the Main Concepts of the Study Session*

17:30 Reflection groups

18:30 Dinner

20:00 International Buffet

Tuesday, 10 March 2026 - Exploring and Understanding Key Issues and Contextual Realities

09:00 Media Consumption of Rural Youth – *Identifying Usage Patterns, Barriers, and Challenges in Rural Areas*

10:45 Break

11:15 Misinformation, Disinformation and Malinformation – *Understanding Key Threats in the Media Environment*

12:45 Lunch break

14:30 Information and Democracy – *Exploring How Digital Media Shapes the Political Landscape*, Lecture by Christos Papagiannis, Expert in Political Communications

16:00 Break

16:30 Media Influence on Political Behaviour – *Analysing Practical Examples and Real-Life Cases*, Lecture by Christos Papagiannis, Expert in Political Communications

17:30 Reflection groups

18:30 Dinner

20:00 Social program

Wednesday, 11 March 2026 - Strengthening Analytical Skills for Navigating Information

09:00 Data and Algorithms – *Understanding Digital Footprints and How Algorithms Shape and Target Online Content*

10:45 Break

11:15 Critical thinking and fact-checking skills - *Strengthening the Ability to Assess Information Accuracy and Identify Manipulated or Misleading Content*

12:45 Lunch break

Free afternoon in the city

19:00 Dinner out in the city

Thursday, 12 March 2026- Developing Digital Communication and Storytelling Skills

09:00 Using the Power of Media and Youth Voices – *Empowering Rural Youth to Create Reliable and Trustworthy Information*, Lecture by Daniel Grist, Expert in Communications – Freelance Podcaster

10:45 Break

11:15 Podcast Co-Creation – *Shaping Narratives on Rural Youth and Rural Communities*, Lecture by Daniel Grist, Expert in Communications – Freelance Podcaster

12:45 Lunch

14:30 Utilising Media for Positive Change – *Exploring Present and Future Opportunities for Rural Areas*

16:00 Break

16:30 Mitigating Risks in Media Engagement – *Identifying Strategies for Responsible Communication*

17:30 Reflection groups

18:30 Dinner

20:00 Social program

Friday, 13 March 2026 - Pathways to Advocacy and Policy

09:00 Policy and Advocacy with, by and for Rural Youth: Developing Effective Policy Recommendations
Input by Eva Kotnik from the Advisory Council on Youth (TBC)

10:45 Break

11:15 Policy Paper Co-Development – *Translating Ideas into Policy Proposals*

12:45 Lunch

14:30 Policy Paper Finalisation and Presentation – *Discussing and Validating Policy Recommendations*

16:00 Break

16:30 Evaluation and Closing with certificates - *Harvesting Learning outcomes, gaining valuable insights and contributing to continuous improvement of Youth Activities like the Study Session, celebration and certificates ceremony*

18:45 Dinner

20:00 Closing Party

Saturday 14 March 2026

Departure of participants

Aim and objectives of the study session “*From Scroll to Action: media literacy for rural youth empowerment*”

Aim:

To enhance media literacy among rural youth, equipping them with the skills to critically assess information, combat disinformation, and strengthen their engagement with democratic institutions at local, national and European levels.

Objectives:

1. Analyse the challenges and opportunities in relation to media literacy for rural communities and explore how disinformation affects rural communities, including its role in political disengagement and liability to radicalisation.
2. Build media literacy skills around identifying credible sources, understanding media biases, and recognizing disinformation tactics, especially in rural contexts.
3. Develop critical thinking skills by encouraging analytical thinking to empower rural youth to question and evaluate the information they encounter.
4. Promote active civic engagement, fostering a sense of responsibility and capability among participants to engage constructively with political systems and advocate for their rural communities.