



5th MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY ON YOUTH AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Developing Global Identities – Hammamet, Tunisia

REPORT

3-8 July, 2017

Organised by:



In partnership with:



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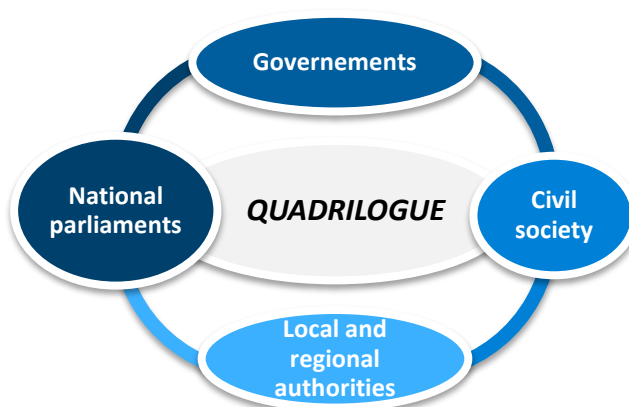


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1. THE MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY ON YOUTH AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

The Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship (MedUni) is an activity organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe in cooperation with the Tunisian Observatoire National de la Jeunesse (ONJ) and in partnership with other international youth-led and youth serving organisations from Europe and the Southern Mediterranean.

In 2013, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe entrusted the North-South Centre with a mission in the framework of its policy towards neighbouring regions. According to this mission, the North-South Centre contributes to the consolidation of ongoing democratic processes in the Euro-Mediterranean (Euro-Med) region through comprehensive multilateral actions of regional scope and by offering a unique platform for dialogue and structured cooperation between all *quadrilogue* actors with a bottom-up approach.



Recognising the unique contribution and the added value that youth and young people from both sides of the Mediterranean bring to democratic consolidation and development, the MedUni gathers representatives from youth organisations and youth-related institutions to dialogue, to train and to be trained on issues of democratic participation and global citizenship.

Objectives of the MedUni

- ◆ to provide training and capacity building for young people and youth organisations;
- ◆ to promote youth work and youth participation in Europe and in the Southern Mediterranean;
- ◆ to foster political mainstreaming of the youth-related issues and youth policy development in Europe and in the Southern Mediterranean based on shared experiences, standards and mechanisms of the Council of Europe and in light of regional needs and initiatives;
- ◆ to encourage participation of young people in decision and policy making by promoting their involvement and interaction in *quadrilogue* initiatives;
- ◆ to foster Euro-Med youth cooperation as well as global youth work;
- ◆ to mainstream human rights, intercultural dialogue and democratic citizenship as essential dimensions of global education.

The MedUni is part of the [Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship](#) that since the year 2011, based on the idea of global citizenship and identity, has provided a platform where young people and youth workers come together as part of a global youth movement that works for more peaceful, sustainable and inclusive societies.

The Universities that comprise this Network are unique scale events of multilateral scope that offer an exceptional space to various partners to run different activities simultaneously encouraging youth actors to meet, debate and cooperate on youth policy related issues.

Joint Theme

Every year a theme is chosen for the Network of Universities and it is integrated in each university's programme. This joint theme becomes the thread that connects all the activities of the same university and all the universities in the same year.



Methodology

The educational model developed in these Universities is largely inspired by the Global Education Guidelines¹, systematized by the North-South Centre, and by Council of Europe's Recommendation on Education for Global Interdependence and Solidarity².

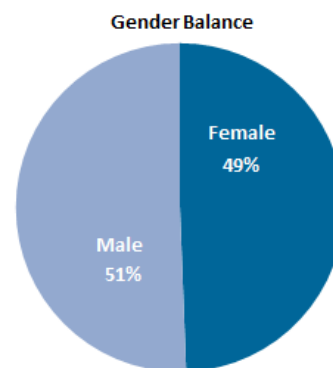
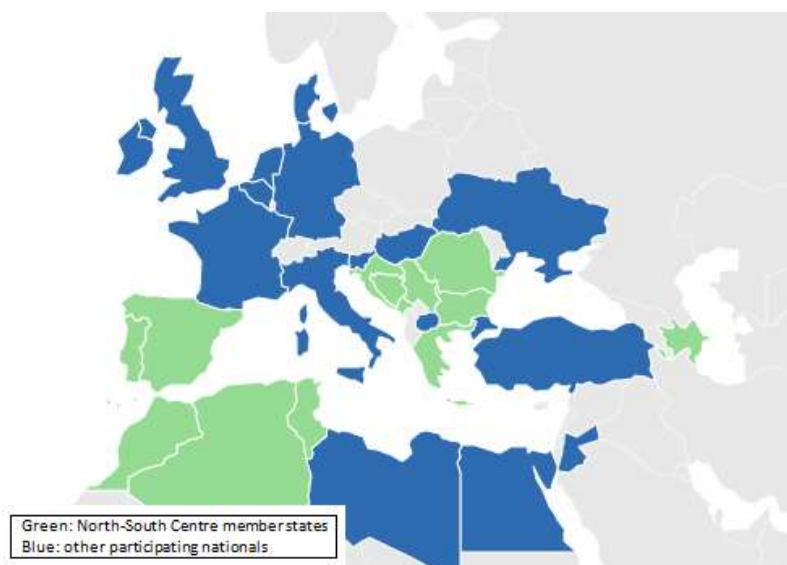
2. THE 5th EDITION OF THE MEDUNI

In 2017 the 5th edition of the MedUni took place in the *Centre de Vacances et de Loisirs pour Enfants*, in Hammamet (Tunisia) and gathered 154 participants for the Euro-Med region distributed in five different activities.

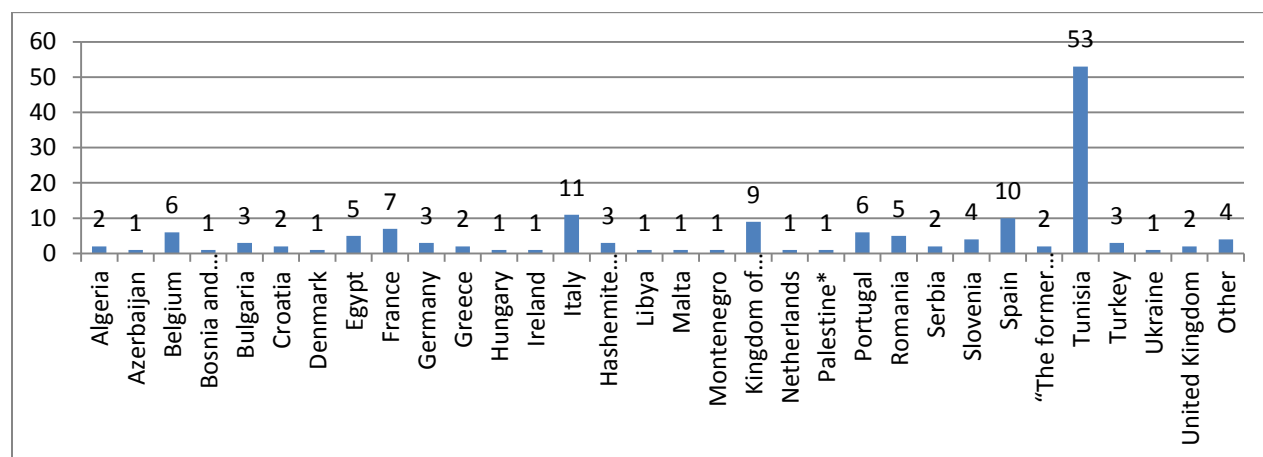
¹ The North-South Centre of the Council of Europe (2012), Global Education Guidelines, available [here](#), accessed 25 January 2017.

² Recommendation CM/Rec(2011)4, Committee of Ministers to member states Council of Europe, *On education for global interdependence and solidarity*, available [here](#), accessed 25 January 2017.

Facts and Figures



Participants per country



QUADRILOGUE



Young people today live in a world of globalization and lack of opportunities, taking part in a development process that is simultaneously bringing people together and widening the divisions between them. Youth is at the forefront of this phenomenon. Young people experience the consequences of globalisation on an everyday basis through new and precarious employment patterns, access to different levels of education, online connections or the absence of them, and cultural diversity or mainstreaming, among other factors. This global exposure provides them with a unique scenario full of opportunities or constraints that induce them to re-think and revise their sense of identity and place within society.

At the same time, youth is a unique moment in the process of identity construction and a key period for political awareness and participation: the period when we work out the connections between 'status and identities as individuals' with the 'lives and concerns of others with whom we share a sense of community'. In other words, youth is the period when we acquire the values and capacities for civic engagement. Self-esteem, connection to peers and communities and positive self-identity contribute to define individuals as fully fledged citizens.

In this context, the complexity relies today on defining one's community. Our interconnected societies transcend geographic or political borders challenging traditional understandings of identity and citizenship. Countries are no longer hermetic constructions and people should be aware of their position as individuals in a world where the consequences of their actions have an impact on other people's lives at the local, regional, national or international levels. Therefore, it is of paramount importance to inform and educate young people about the notion of belonging not only to their in-group, community or country, but also to broader global entities, contributing to defining them not only as citizens but as global citizens, ready to participate in society beyond self-interest.

Before our interdependent futures, new generations are coming together as agents for change so that no one is left behind. It is in this context that the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was conceived with 17 goals that target more sustainable social, economic, and environmental developments for all countries around the globe. Young people and youth organisations, as recognised in the global agenda, are key drivers in advancing inclusive and sustainable global development since youth-led action can help governments fill gaps in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

On one hand, youth organizations play a crucial role in connecting identities, developing more inclusive societies and promoting diversity. Youth organizations accompany young people in the sensitive and meaningful processes of identity construction fostering critical thinking, building intercultural sensitivity, and developing methodologies for self-awareness. Youth organisations support young individuals to explore their power as a change maker. By promoting human rights and constantly challenging racism,

discrimination and xenophobia every day and anywhere. Youth organizations support a better understanding of multiple identities, beliefs, cultures, traditions and histories of people. They support the development of young people's self-esteem and sense of belonging regardless their differences, consequently shaping their identities and contributing to educate open and respectful citizens for the future.

On the other hand, youth organisations have models to integrate people's capacities for participation to implement the global agenda at different levels. Youth work is proving that young people are energetic and willing to engage in international, national and local developments. Youth organisations contribute to localizing the global agenda, they foster civic engagement at the grassroots level by mobilizing more young people in developing a sense of ownership and awareness about the challenges they face. They help amplifying their voices through decision-making and in political processes, ensuring young people's full access to their rights.

Targeted Outcomes

- ◆ international youth work is encouraged, and non-formal education methodologies are identified as complement to formal education to promote youth civic engagement;
- ◆ educators, young people and youth multipliers are equipped with knowledge, skills and tools to promote principles and practices of global/development education;
- ◆ awareness is raised about the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the role that young people and youth organisations have in implementing, monitoring and evaluating the Sustainable Development Goals in their communities;
- ◆ the impact that self-esteem, connection to peers and communities and positive self-identity is explored in active youth participation;
- ◆ Issues around personal identity and its multiple dimensions (gender, nationality, ethnicity, language, etc.) as well as around collective/political identities (new political movements, civic activism in 21st century, etc.) are discussed;
- ◆ exchanges on identity affirmation approaches contribute to the construction of inclusive identities to prevent the marginalization of youth while tackling the growing issues of xenophobia, racism and intolerance;
- ◆ by advocating with decision-makers, youth issues are prioritised and an open dialogue between young people and government officials is encouraged to facilitate joint action in policy development.

3. THE JOINT PROGRAMME

The joint programme is a major component of the activities of the MedUni. It is a creative common space which gives participants the opportunity to interact informally, to network, to share and to reflect upon different perspectives and approaches. Moreover it allows them to go out from their own community, from their own field to exchange with others.

	Sunday 2	Monday 3	Tuesday 4	Wednesday 5	Thursday 6	Friday 7	Saturday 8	Sunday 9
8:00-9:00	A R R I V A L S	Breakfast						D E P A R T U R E S
9:00-11:00		Informal opening <i>1 hour</i>	Partners' activities		Joint session	Partners' activities		
11:00- 11:30		Coffee break						
11:30-13:30		Partners' activities			Joint session	Partners' activities		
13:30-15:00		Lunch break						
15:00-16:30		Partners' activities			Study trips	Partners' activities		
16:30-17:00		Coffee break				Coffee break		
17:00-18:30		Partners' activities	Organisations and donors fair	Partners' activities		Partners' activities	Closing ceremony	
19:00-19:30		Free time				Free time		
19:30-21:00			Dinner					
21:00	Welcome evening	Opening ceremony	Developing global identities	Free evening	Free evening	Developing global identities	Farewell evening	

Partner's activities

It refers to all the activities organised during the week by the North-South Centre and its partners, that is to say: training courses, meetings, seminars and workshops.

Joint Activities

It includes the opening and closing ceremonies; the joint session and evening sessions which are facilitated by the joint team.

The organising group of the MedUni is composed of several teams who work together to ensure the smooth proceedings of the University

The coordination team

The coordination team led by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe ensured the development of the programme and its implementation during the week, the smooth communication and consultation with all the partners involved in the edition, and the coordination with the local partner



The North-South Centre: Ms Rocio Cervera



The team of the Tunisian National Youth Observatory:
Ms Imen Belhedi, Mr Hédi Dhouayfi, Mr Béchir Kachbouri, Mr Kais Farfra, Mr Lofti Hariz and Mr Nader Khammassi

The pedagogical joint team

Composed of experienced trainers in non-formal and global education in the youth field and actively involved in the youth movement, the pedagogical team was at the core of the joint programme. They prepared and facilitated the different joint activities during the week. Their mission was to build bridges between participants and to go further on in the discussion about the topic “developing global identities” in a relaxed and creative atmosphere.



Ms Rebeca de Soigne, Mr Tarek Amraoui, Mr Jacopo Cesari and Ms Insaf Rhoulani

The media team

The media team dealt with all communications aspect during the event. They took pictures, videos and animated the social media in coordination with the North-South Centre. They also interviewed stakeholders and participants.



Ms Pascale Müller, Mr Ghazi and Ms Daniela Sala

Main moments of the Joint Programme

In the framework of the joint theme “developing global identities” the joint team developed a series of sessions with all the participants from the MedUni to tackle together the theme. Apart from the evening sessions that dealt with the topic in a more creative way, the main highlights of the programme were:

The opening ceremony

The opening ceremony was held at the beginning of the week in the presence of the core partners, the participants and high level institutional guests, including the Tunisian Secretary of State for Youth. It highlighted the important support of the Tunisian authorities to the MedUni, especially through the help of the Observatoire National de la Jeunesse (ONJ).

Ms Rocio Cervera, Executive Director of the North-South Centre, welcomed everyone and introduced the framework of the Euro-Med Youth Cooperation dimension of the work of the North-South Centre as well as the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship.

All the prominent speakers shed the light on the difficulties faced by youth on many levels and focused on the occasion for discovering each another in such an intercultural event. The Tunisian authorities expressed their pleasure of hosting the MedUni for the fifth time. Bringing together people with different experiences and from varied horizons, involving more young people in interregional cooperation, building bridges and empowering more young people to actively participate in democratic processes were unanimously shared among all partners.

Speakers

Ms Rocio Cervera

Deputy Executive Director, North-South Centre of the Council of Europe

Ms Imen Belhedi

Director General, Observatoire National de la Jeunesse en Tunisie

Mr Marco Grdosic

Chair of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe

Mr Mahmoud Elsayed

Representative of the Egyptian Intercultural Youth Dialogue Association

Ms Faten Kallel

Tunisian Secretary of State for Youth

The opening ceremony was also attended by the mayor of Hammamet, Mr Mohamed Abdelwahed and the regional authorities of Nabeul, as well as by the Ambassadors of Portugal and Romania in Tunis.

Organisations and donors' fair

One of the highlights of the week was the preparation of a "Bazaar" to give the space to present the organisations present at the MedUni. Over 25 organisations presented their work. The fair also counted on the participation from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the External Action Service of the European Union (EEAS), the German Development Agency in Tunis (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ) and the Tunisian National Agency for the protection of the environment (ANPE, Agence Nationale de Protection de l'Environnement).



Stands of the organisations and donors' fairs

The Joint Session

In the middle of the week, the joint session offered the opportunity to go deeper on the subject of “developing global identities” through the concrete experiences from some of the participants who were ready to share their own stories.

The stories spoke about personal intercultural barriers, physical and metaphorical borders, immigration and diaspora or challenging stereotypes and hate speech but ultimately, they were stories of engagement, citizenship and activism: “Stop acting alone. Act together” (Ms Amal Hamich, No Hate Makers)

“Posting something on social media from time to time is not enough. We need to go out there. We need to reach out to other young people on local, national and international level.”

Ms Tina Hocevar
European Youth Forum

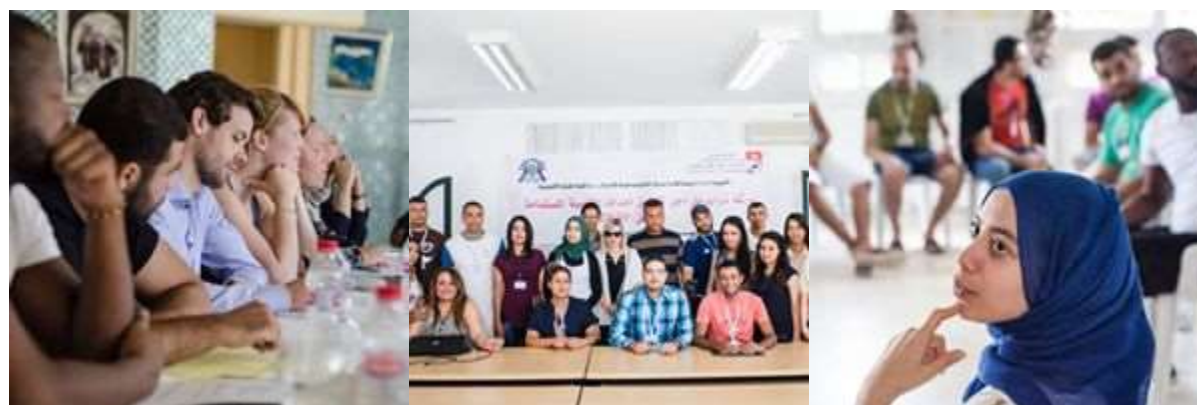


The closing ceremony

The closing ceremony marked the end of the MedUni. The session was a formal moment during which the partners and the organisers could express their closing words, a celebration of the work done during the MedUni with the presentation of participants’ achievements, reflections and messages, and an invitation to keep working on “developing global identities” and to be active multipliers of the MedUni outcomes.

4. ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

During the week each partner held their own activities in parallel. The combined space of MedUni and the joint moments offered the possibilities for partners, trainers and participants to network, exchange ideas and best practices, and enabled a more fruitful learning experience.

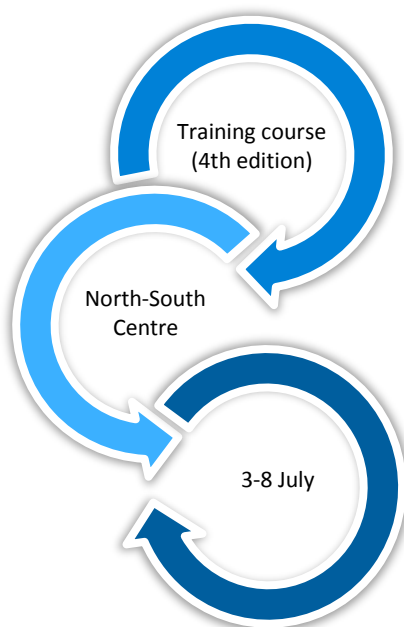


Structured Participation in Democratic Processes (SPDP)

This week-long training programme focused on developing competencies of youth workers/activists involved in civil society organisations in European and Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries.

The fourth edition of this training course aimed at supporting the empowerment of civil society and more particularly of the youth organisations with the purpose of making them fully fledged actors of governance.

The contents include sessions about the concepts and practices of democratic citizenship and youth participation, the role of youth organisations in the processes of designing and implementing decisions or the implementation and evaluation of policies. It provided also the space for the sharing of tools and mechanisms for the development of youth structures and structured participation in Europe and Southern and Eastern Mediterranean region.



Profile of the participants

Young people

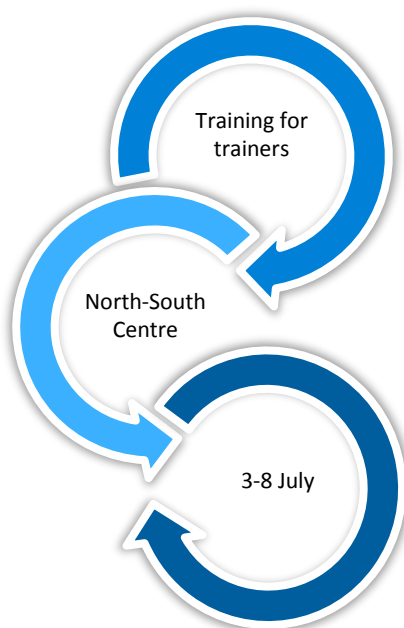
- from Europe (Council of Europe member states) and from the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean region
- under 30 years old
- actively involved in a youth organisation, project or initiative (whether local, national, regional or international) that aims at promoting the participation of young people in democratic governance, decision and policy making processes

Main outputs and outcomes

- ❖ 19 young activists were equipped with tools related with Structured Participation.
- ❖ Quadrilogue actors were mobilised to participate in panel discussions addressing the target group and tackling relevant themes related to Structured Participation.
- ❖ Reinforced engagement by the participants on processes of structured democratic participation in their contexts.

Global Education Training course for Youth Multipliers

The sixth edition of this training course aimed at i) empowering young people to further support the practice of global development education ii) providing youth multipliers with a series of competences and tools to promote intercultural dialogue to other young people.



Profile of the participants

- aged between 18 and 30;
- were key multipliers playing an active role within a youth organisation/platform or institution;
- had a diverse social and geographical background (including disadvantaged and minority groups);
- had background knowledge in terms of the UN SDGs and youth related issues.

Main outputs and outcomes

- ❖ Increased understanding of the concept of Global Education by the participants.
- ❖ 19 young participants gained tools and competences to promote global development education and particularly, intercultural dialogue.
- ❖ Participants and organizations represented increased their knowledge about the UN SDGs

Youth for the achievement of the SDGs - 2030

The aim of the training was to give tools to young activists from Tunisia in order to build their capacities to work from the grassroots level and to achieve a multiplier effect.

Participants took part in a reflection process about an innovative implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through an assessment of the situation and of the current practices.

Profiles of the participants

- from Tunisia
- 20-35 years old
- youth multipliers



Main outputs and outcomes

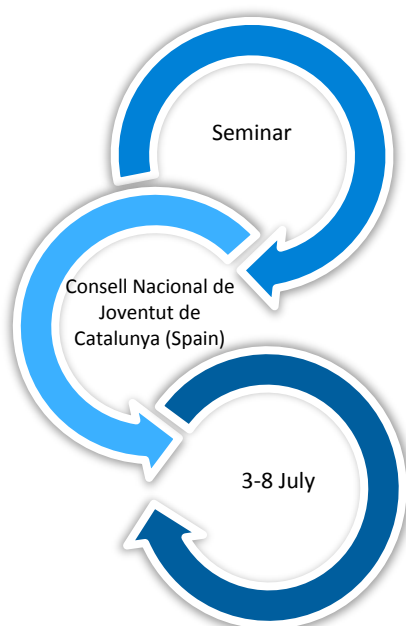
- ❖ Development of synergies between public parties, the Deputies Chamber, youth organisations and civil society.
- ❖ Creation of a youth task force to efficiently assess the process of implementation of the SDGs by the stakeholders.
- ❖ Implementation of an action day in cooperation with the Tunisian National Agency for the protection of the environment (ANPE) to rehabilitate a public square and raise awareness about the need to protect the environment.

Mediterranean youth together!

Capacity Building for Action

The activity consisted on a five-day capacity building seminar followed by the two-day annual meeting of the EuroMed Youth Network, a network of youth-led youth organisations and councils from the Euro-Med region that responds to the need of strengthening youth councils and structures with the aim of developing successful projects on youth policies in the region.

The different sessions of the activity consisted in the sharing of good practices and expertise in topics such as communication, internal organisation, conflict resolution, fundraising and networking.



Profiles of the participants

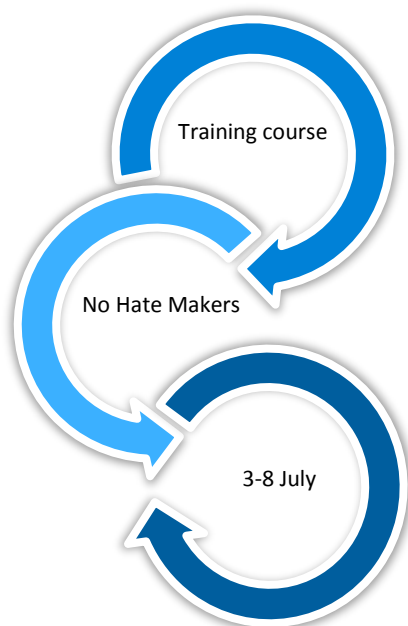
- 20 youth leaders from youth-led organisations and councils working in the Euro-Med area;
- 18 to 30 years old

Main outputs and outcomes

- ❖ New partners joined the EuroMed Youth Network.
- ❖ Definition of the vision, mission and values of the Network as well as its internal organisation procedures.
- ❖ Identification of priorities and objectives for the upcoming years: youth participation, active citizenship and social entrepreneurship.
- ❖ Creation of a communication strategy to launch the Network in social media

NoHateMakers: Taking actions against Hate Speech through Counter and Alternatives Narratives in EuroMed

The aim of the training course was to empower youth workers and activists to develop counter and alternative narratives to combat hate and to promote human rights, especially in online environments. Based on the WE Can manual, the training course proposed a set of online and offline communication and educational approaches and tools to undermine narratives that sustain and legitimise hate speech.



Profiles of the participants

- 18 participants from different regions but mainly from Europe and the Southern Mediterranean
- aged 21 to 40 years old;
- committed to human rights education;
- with a background in community actions and the capacity to implement community projects

Main outputs and outcomes

- ❖ 18 more young people committed to the No Hate Speech Movement and became #NoHateMakers
- ❖ Tunisian participants engaged in the implementation of the No Hate Speech Movement in Tunisia
- ❖ Initiation of two new projects to develop further the #NoHateMakers Network” and to develop a project to train religious leaders on hate speech and methods to counter it.
- ❖ Four counter and alternative narratives:
 - A video on countering sexist hate speech: “If the roles were switched” with more than 1000 views in Facebook
 - A poster in countering a xenophobic tweet “Winter is coming” with more than 1700 views on Facebook
 - Pictures on countering a racist tweet: “#WelcomeToAfrica” with more than 12400 views on Facebook
 - A meme on countering Islamophobia law proposal “We are watching you” with more than 1250 views on Facebook.

Stakeholders' Meeting

Continuing with the practice of former editions, the National Youth Forum of Italy (FNG) facilitated a meeting of stakeholders active in the Euro-Med Youth Cooperation. The meeting gathered representatives from Europe and the Southern Mediterranean with a view to developing more partnerships and to mapping the actions of different organisations involved in the process of the Euro-Med Youth Cooperation.



Stakeholders

International Organisations:

- North-South Centre of the Council of Europe
- External Action Service of the European Union (EEAS)
- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

National Governments:

- National Youth Observatory (ONJ), Tunisia
- Spanish Institute for Youth (INJUVE), Spain

Civil society:

- European Youth Forum
- Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe
- The Civil Society Youth Facility South
- The African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe (ADYNE)
- National Youth Forum (FNG), Italy
- Tunisian Youth Forum, Tunisia
- Catalan National Youth Council (CNJC), Spain
- No Hate Makers
- Intercultural Youth Dialogue Association, Egypt
- Turkish Youth Council Go-For

*Local Authorities: the municipality of Gaia, Portugal, attended as an observer.

Main outputs and outcomes

- ❖ Identification of common priority topics: inclusive societies with particular focus on the integration of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, youth entrepreneurship and employability, no hate speech movement, confidence building between young people organisations and decision-makers, consolidation of national youth councils and interregional cooperation.
- ❖ Exchange of views about the UN Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security.
- ❖ Presentation of the process towards the 4th Africa-Europe Youth Summit to take place in Abidjan, Ivory Coast in November 2017.