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8TH Arab-European Youth Forum

Youth and Intercultural Dialogue in times of Artificial Intelligence



Youth City, Luxor, Egypt
14-19 October 2024

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Deadline for applying: **24 July 2024**

BACKGROUND

The Council of Europe has supported dialogue between youth organisations and institutions concerned with youth policy since its inception, a support that in the recent past mainly focused on capacity-building for human rights education, intercultural dialogue and development of non-formal education.

The co-operation with the League of Arab States has been for more than 10 years and important part of this work, primarily articulated around the promotion of intercultural dialogue, youth participation and youth policy co-operation.

This co-operation took an important step forward with the participation of the Council of Europe in the Youth Forum of the League of Arab States in Jordan in 2008 and in Morocco in 2009. In April 2009, both institutions co-organised a training course for youth leaders at the European Youth Centre Budapest, which led to further co-operation in the framework of the Euro-Arab Youth Conference in Tunisia and Italy (Ragusa) in 2010. Since then, the two institutions have cooperated on a range of training courses and youth fora.

The last joint activity co-organised by the Council of Europe and the League of Arab States, with their respective partners, has been the 7th Euro-Arab Youth Forum, organised in Budapest in November 2019 and focused on Dialogue on Youth, Peace and Security. The Covid 19 pandemic interrupted the cooperation activities.

Euro-Arab youth cooperation remains a priority for both the Council of Europe and the League of Arab States youth sectors. Within the programme Youth for Democracy, Euro-Arab dialogue activities are one of the main programme orientations of the priority Living Together in Peaceful and Inclusive Societies. This corresponds also to the 2023 Reykjavik Declaration of Heads of State and Government, which calls for more dialogue with other international organisations and then development of synergies to implement the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

THE 8TH ARAB-EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM



In cooperation with the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Egypt, the 2024 Arab-European Youth Forum is organised with a view to reset and re-launch the cooperation between young people and youth movements affiliated to the two organisations.

The forum will be a unique space and moment for dialogue and exchange in a social-political context marked by polycrisis that impact heavily on young people and the context for dialogue that include armed conflicts, persisting grave human rights violations, climate crisis and environmental degradation and the threats and opportunities of Artificial Intelligence.

The rich historical heritage of the Egyptian city of [Luxor](#) provides an excellent context for young people to exchange, learn and reassess their own role as agents of dialogue, innovation and change.

Aims and objectives

The forum aims at promoting dialogue and cooperation among young people and organisations cooperating with the Council of Europe and the League of Arab States by sharing expectations for intercultural dialogue and cooperation and exchanging on the impact of Artificial Intelligence on young people within the broader Arab and European contexts.

Objectives of the 8th Euro-Arab Youth Forum

- To relaunch Euro-Arab co-operation and dialogue in the field of youth;
- To discuss the conditions and needs for intercultural dialogue among young people;
- To explore the role of history and ancient civilisations in shaping today's understanding of cultural diversity and peaceful coexistence;
- To develop a common understanding of the potential benefits and risks that Artificial Intelligence represents for young people and intercultural dialogue in the two regions;
- To enhance mutual understanding about the priorities and working methods of the youth policy sectors of the League of Arab States and the Council of Europe;
- To support young people in engaging with future dialogue activities support the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



Expected outcomes

As a result of the forum, mutual understanding and bilateral cooperation between Arab and European youth will be strengthened, and their shared aspirations for a better and more sustainable future can be achieved.

Furthermore, the forum should result in a document on cooperation and dialogue between Arab and European Youth that provides guidelines and inspiration for follow-up of the forum by the participants and institutions involved. Such a document should also express the commitment of Arab and European youth to common human values and rights as a basis for joint cooperation in building a better future of prosperity for young people, the pursuance of world peace, climate justice and the protection of the environment, and the compliance of Artificial Intelligence and other digital systems with human rights values.

Finally, the forum should serve as a platform to launch collaborative projects between Arab and European youth in various fields such as education, entrepreneurship, and technology, thereby fostering cross-cultural exchange and cooperation and contributing to the development of youth capabilities.

Programme and Working methods

The programme of the forum is currently being developed and prepared by a working group of the League of Arab States, the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Egypt and the Council of Europe.

The programme will be a mix of plenary inputs and exchanges, addressing notably the common civilisational heritage as a basis for dialogue, truths and myths about Artificial Intelligence and the conditions for Euro-Arab youth dialogue and cooperation.

This will be complemented by workshops and break-up session where participants will be able to interact, share experiences and views, and put together their ideas and proposals for the follow-up of the forum.

A significant part of the programme will take advantage of the rich archaeological and cultural patrimony of Luxor, including visits of the Karnak Temple, the Valley of the Kings and also of the Nile river.

The programme flow presented below is meant to represent a very schematic perspective of the daily programme. Many details may change and evolve between now and the beginning of the forum in October. The participants invited will be sent a detailed and updated daily programme.

14 Oct.	15 Oct.	16 Oct.	17 Oct.	18 Oct.	19 Oct.
ARRIVALS	Introductions Official opening Lessons for Today from Ancient Civilisations	Harnessing AI for a better intercultural understanding Truths and myths about AI	Arab-European Intercultural Dialogue: Enabling and disabling factors Workshops on culture and dialogue	Means for dialogue and cooperation among Arab and European Youth Open Space and Networking	DEPARTURES
	Exploring the city of Luxor as a setting for historical and civilisational dialogue	a) AI and education b) AI and the labour market c) AI and cultural diversity d) Misinformation and freedom of expression e) Hate speech and dignity online	Workshops cont.d FREE TIME IN LUXOR Inter-institutional cooperation meeting of partners and stakeholders	Conclusions of the forum Initiatives and projects for further cooperation Luxor Declaration Evaluation and closing	
	Intercultural evening	Cruise on the Nile River	Visit to Karnak Temple	Visit Valley of the Kings	

During the forum, an inter-institutional meeting bringing together the main partners and stakeholders in Arab-European dialogue and cooperation will be held in view of supporting dialogue and setting the guidelines for future cooperation.

Participants

The forum will bring together some 80 youth leaders, activists and other stakeholders active on Euro-Arab cooperation in the youth field.

The participants recruited through this call must be:

- a) Resident in a member state of the Council of Europe or state signatory of the European Cultural Convention;
- b) Aged between 18 to 30 years;
- c) Able to work in English (knowledge of Arabic will be an asset);
- d) Involved in a youth organisation or youth work project connected to Euro-Arab youth cooperation, intercultural dialogue or literacy on Artificial Intelligence;

- e) Able to share their experiences and ideas and be motivated to take full part in forum actively and contribute to its success and follow-up.

The Council of Europe welcomes applications from all young people and youth leaders who fulfil the specific criteria of this call irrespective of gender, disability, marital or parental status, racial, ethnic or social origin, religion, belief or sexual orientation.

Practical and administrative information

Working languages

The working languages of the forum will be English and Arabic, with simultaneous interpretation provided during plenary sessions.

Dates of arrival and departure

Participants are expected to arrive in Luxor on 14 October and to depart on 19 October.

Accommodation and board

Full board and lodging at forum will be provided and paid for by the League of Arab States and the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Egypt at the Youth City in Luxor.

Travel costs and visa

Travel costs of participants will be reimbursed by the Council of Europe by bank transfer upon the presentation of required invoices, travel documents and tickets.

Visa costs will be reimbursed by the Council of Europe upon presentation of the necessary evidence and documents. The Council of Europe will also facilitate issuing invitation letters for visa purposes when needed.

Application procedure and selection of participants

All those wishing to apply to take part in the forum must complete an online application form available at <https://youthapplications.coe.int/> by **24 July 2024**.

Further information

For further information or queries related to this call, please contact us at eyc.programme@coe.int