



AP/Carte-J(2021)9

Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card

46th meeting of the Board of Co-ordination

8 October 2021

09.30 – 12.30

PARTIAL AGREEMENT WORK PROGRAMME 2022

Introduction

Co-operation with the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card of the Council of Europe is one of the core priorities of the European Youth Card Association. Both partners have been investing significant efforts to continuously strengthen their relationship in order to improve youth mobility and active citizenship for all young people in Europe.

The work programmes strive to accurately meet the needs of EYCA member organisations and those of governments who already contribute, and communicate more effectively its potential value to governments who could contribute.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic impacted youth mobility in a negative way, it continues to be a policy priority, especially with a focus on intercultural learning. Youth Mobility remains one of the most effective ways to empower young people as actors in diverse communities, break down barriers on discrimination and equip them with skills and attitudes for the highly intercultural world they face.

European Youth Cards are a valuable tool for mobility of young people, which is to be further promoted and strengthened, but also to implement other policy priorities, such as: active citizenship, access to rights, quality youth work, inclusive societies etc. The European Youth Card connect young people to all a variety of services and opportunities and provide communication channels which can enable policy-makers (1) to offer young people information, and (2) to consult young people directly.

Priorities

Considering the [*Draft priorities 2022 – 2023 of the Council of Europe youth sector*](#), the work programme of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card reflects the need to reinforce youth trust in public institutions and pluralistic democracies, to empower them as actors of peaceful and inclusive societies and to bring youth mobility back on the policy agenda, with a focus on access to learning mobility opportunities for disadvantaged young people.

Therefore, the proposed specific aims for the Partial Agreement work programme for 2022 are:

- Reinforce trust of young people in pluralistic democracies, with a focus on capacity building for youth organisations and public institutions to work together to advance youth civic engagement;
- Explore how the European Youth Card, as a youth mobility tool, can support opportunities for disadvantaged young people (in particular Roma youth and refugees) and build intercultural skills for all youth;
- Explore the role that European Youth Card can have in advancing synergies on youth work policies and contribute to the European youth work agenda.

A proposed work program 2022

1. PA seminar 50/50 for civil servants on youth policy and youth leaders ‘Implementing Council of Europe standards in youth work: a roadmap to shaping the European youth work agenda’

The seminar will be dedicated to policy makers and youth leaders in civil society, all working to increase the capacities of youth work services at local and national levels. The event will be held as part of the CDEJ European University on Youth Policies (CDEJ Summer University)¹. Especially during the COVID-19, youth work services have adapted, changed and have been challenged. In a context where youth mental health is at risk and young people have to navigate a more uncertain world, but more interconnected, youth work services have to answer more complex needs. At the same time, youth work services need to have a common standard of quality and access, given the mobility of today’s youth.

This event will be in line with Priority no. 4 and contribute to the expected result: *“Member States have increased their capacity to develop youth policies promoting Council of Europe standards.”*

Objectives of the event:

- 1) Strengthen the capacity of policy makers and youth leaders to work together in implementing Council of Europe standards on youth work;
- 2) Offer a unique space for members of the PA on Youth Mobility to build stronger partnerships with the European Youth Card organisations in their countries;
- 3) Identify possible synergies between different policy processes and understand better what the role of the European Youth Card in respect to European youth work agenda can be.

Location: Malta, under CDEJ European University on Youth Policies (Summer University)

Date: May 2022

Budget: 15.000 EUR

2. PA seminar “Democracy done right: young people as key actors in pluralistic democracy and the role of the European Youth Card as a civic engagement tool”

According to the recent 2021 report of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe “State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law: A democratic renewal for Europe”², “what can be seen is a clear and worrying degree of democratic backsliding. [...] there is no doubt that legitimate actions taken by national authorities in response to Covid-19 have compounded this trend. Individuals’ rights and liberty have been curtailed in ways that would be unacceptable in normal times. Democracy has been restricted. The danger is that our democratic culture will not fully recover”. Young people have been severely impacted by health

¹ Subject to the sanitary situation.

² [State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law: A democratic renewal for Europe. \(coe.int\)](https://www.coe.int/en/web/states-of-democracy-and-human-rights-report-2021)

sanitary restrictions, negatively impacting the quality of education, seeing them graduate in more uncertain and precarious job markets, limiting their social life and public participation. Skills to participate in democracy and strong youth organisations are a prerequisite for young citizens engagement in democratic life.

The event is in line with policy priority no1, *Revitalising pluralistic democracy* and is expected to contribute to the result: “*Youth organisations and member States have increased their capacity to develop youth policy and youth work for the democratic participation of young people.*”

Objectives of the event:

- 1) Offer the space for debate and reflection on how pluralistic democracies can be revitalised and what is the role of youth organisations;
- 2) Identify how tools such as the European Youth card can be used to educate and engage young citizens in constant civic debates and empower them as key actors in their communities;
- 3) Make policy recommendations strengthen youth participation in emerging areas such as internet governance, while implementing the principles of Council of Europe policy frameworks (ex. the Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life).

Location: Ireland (preferably as part of the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministries)

Date: September 2022

Budget: 15.000 EUR

3. PA seminar ‘Mobility of youth from disadvantaged backgrounds: the European youth card as a tool to promote interculturality and access to rights’

Youth Mobility of young people remains a policy priority especially when addressing mobility experiences of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds, such as newly arrived young refugees or Roma travellers. At the same time, learning mobility opportunities remain accessible mainly for young people from middle and higher social classes, which creates social gaps and challenges in building integrated, diverse communities. Youth Mobility remains one of the most effective informal learning experiences, contributing to skills and attitudes needed to combat discrimination.

This event is in line with policy priority no. 3 and contributes to expected result “*Youth workers and young people have gained knowledge and skills to work on peacebuilding and intercultural dialogue to prevent and combat discrimination, exclusion and violent extremism.*”

Objectives of the event:

- 1) Promote learning youth mobility as a policy priority, with a focus on opportunities and what mobility means for young people from disadvantaged background;
- 2) Offer the space for professionals and young people to have a coordinated approach on this topic and make recommendations for policy makers;
- 3) Identify how the European Youth Card infrastructure and resources can be used to offer better mobility opportunities.

Location: Italy (preferably as part of the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministries)

Date: November 2022

Budget: 10.000 EUR

4. Presentations to the CDEJ and the Board of Co-ordination

Updated presentations will be made to all meetings of the CDEJ and the Board of Co-ordination of the Partial Agreement.

In addition, a promotional seminar for states non-members of the Partial Agreement could take place live or on-line.

Planned budget: 5.000 EUR.