



AP/Carte-J (2017)2

Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card

Implementation of the WORK PROGRAMME 2017

Introduction

The priorities, expected results and activities of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card in 2017 were based on the priorities for 2016-2017 adopted by the Joint Council on Youth.

*In this respect, advancing democratic citizenship through innovative forms of participation could not be seen without youth mobility. Mobility is an important part of the *autonomy of young people and their access to rights*, and of the *promotion of inclusive and peaceful societies*, including in the context of incoming and already existing migrant community.*

Therefore, the proposed specific aims for the Partial Agreement work programme in 2017 were to:

- generate and mobilise knowledge about youth mobility in Europe;
- support governments to make better policy responses to youth mobility issues;
- engage a wide range of stakeholders to devise youth mobility-related policy including European institutions, governments, business, experts and young people;
- stimulate and present youth card practice that contributes to better youth mobility solutions leading to integration and inclusion, especially in the light of refugee crisis in Europe.

Programme of activities for 2017

1. Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility/EYCA Seminar *"Countering violent extremism and youth radicalisation: using the European Youth Card to promote peaceful communities"* took place on 29-31 January 2017 in Nicosia, Cyprus, in the framework of the Cyprus Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers. It was organised by the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility, EYCA and the Youth Board of Cyprus.

Markus Wolf (CDEJ member, Austria) and Jorge Orlando (CDEJ member, Portugal) took part in and reported on the Cyprus Chairmanship seminar both at the CDEJ and the Board of Co-ordination meetings in March 2017. The event was a big success with large participation of various stakeholders; final recommendations were worked out for policy action in this field and a

publication is currently being prepared by the Youth Department on its basis (it is expected to be printed by the end of this year).

The national media coverage (TV, print and on-line media, radio) was extensive. The Council of Europe published a press-release and put the news on its front web page. The Press release and the programme of the seminar appear in the Appendix 1.

The results of the seminar would be fed into the youth department's work on this subject, including the Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth, ERYICA's co-operation with the Council of Europe, etc.

2. European University on Youth Policies (Summer University)

CDEJ(2017)13; CDEJ(2017)13 add1; CDEJ(2017)13 add2

The 2017 **European University on Youth Policies** (28–31 August 2017, European Youth Centre Budapest) gathered 40 representatives of ministries responsible for youth issues and of youth organisations from across Europe. The programme focused on the core Council of Europe standards for youth policy.¹ **The thematic focus was youth mobility** (from policy, research and practice perspectives), and an on-site visit on this theme was organized by the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) and its Hungarian partners. The strong involvement of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility and EYCA allowed participants to get acquainted with the current trends and debates in the field of youth mobility. The results and all relevant information appears in the reference documents, this item being the subject for discussion and decisions at the CDEJ meeting on 16 October 2017.

This activity was second major event of the Partial Agreement's programme of activities in 2017 along the Cyprus Chairmanship event.

3. Promotional seminar for non-member states of the Partial Agreement (early December, Varna, Bulgaria)

The Partial Agreement aims to continue its efforts to bring more countries to join its ranks. The Partial Agreement has significantly strengthened its impact through strong youth card network in Europe, which is a solid basis for exploring the needs of the countries of the Council of Europe, including those with large youth populations. More attention will be paid to present an added value for youth policy stakeholders in (re)joining the Partial Agreement.

The event is planned early December 2017 in Varna, Bulgaria, a country in the process of adhering to the Partial Agreement. The draft concept paper and the provisional programme appear in Appendix 2.

4. Presentations to the CDEJ, the EPLM and the Partial Agreement members

Updated information on the developments within the Partial Agreement and EYCA was provided to all meetings of the CDEJ, EPLM and to 21 members of the Partial Agreement. The traditional working dinner in the framework of statutory bodies' meetings in Budapest and Strasbourg for all Partial Agreement members on the results of the past and current years as well as on the priorities and proposed activities for the next year, also take place as usual.

¹ access to rights; disadvantaged young people/social inclusion; youth participation; youth mobility and information; youth work.

APPENDIX 1

PRESS RELEASE**Countering violent extremism and youth radicalisation seminar**

The Youth Board of Cyprus, the Council of Europe Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility Through the Youth Card and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) organize the seminar entitled “***Countering violent extremism and youth radicalisation: using the European Youth Card to promote peaceful communities***”, between 30-31 January 2017, in Nicosia.

The event is organised in the framework of the Cyprus Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (22 November 2016 – 19 May 2017) and aims in producing constructive ideas towards countering the phenomena of extremism and radicalisation among young people, which may lead to extreme behavior such as terrorism.

As stated in the Priorities document of the Cyprus Chairmanship, the seminar “comes at a time when Europe is faced with economic hardship, migratory flows, terrorism, the dangerous rise of populism, xenophobic rhetoric and extremism, and other phenomena which test our democracies and shake public trust in state and international institutions”.

Although radicalisation can happen at any age, young people in search of a sense of belonging, purpose of life or identity may be particularly exposed. At the same time, young people constitute one of the most mobile and dynamic population groups, which gives them various opportunities for interaction with persons from diverse cultural backgrounds.

In this context, the purpose of European Youth Card organisations is to offer young people a tool that would provide them with equal access to community services, regardless of their social, cultural or ethnic background.

The activities dedicated to cardholders’ communities contribute to building a sense of belonging among young people, to expanding their identity beyond their own cultural background and to having a space for constructive interaction with persons of different nationalities, ethnic groups, religions, races, etc. This has a positive impact on building more peaceful communities, and may also have an effect in the longer term on countering violent extremism and preventing youth radicalisation and hate speech.

It is expected that in the seminar will participate about 40 representatives of Ministries dealing with youth affairs, social affairs and education, representatives of EYCA members, NGO members and young people with migrant background. It will combine keynote lecture, discussions and panel session. The seminar’s outcomes will be published by the Youth Board of Cyprus after the event’s conclusion.

Programme of the Seminar:

APPENDIX 2

Promotional Seminar of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card

Draft concept note

Suggested date: 14 - 16 December 2017

Location: Varna, Bulgaria

Introduction

This promotional seminar is part of the 2017 programme of activities of the Council of Europe Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card. It will be organised by the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) in co-operation with the National Youth Card Association Bulgaria and Varna – European Youth Capital Association.

The main objectives of the seminar are to:

- promote the European Youth Card as a tool for policy development and implementation, at local, national and European levels, especially towards Government representatives;
- encourage Governments who did not sign the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility to do so and mainstream ‘youth mobility’ as a priority in their public policies;
- share good practices on how the European Youth Card is developed by EYCA members and get hands-on experience on how the youth card is used to provide services to young people at all levels.

It is organised **as a response to an interest** voiced by a number of states not yet party to the Partial Agreement to learn more about it, as well as about the youth card and its implementation.

Therefore, **the profile of expected participants** is:

- representatives of Governments working to develop and implement national youth policies and being interested to connect it with the European dimension as regards the youth card and youth mobility, from the following countries: Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Georgia, Armenia, Belarus, Czech Republic, Luxemburg, Italy and Spain.
- representatives of EYCA member organisations, including EYCA Board members;
- national public authorities of Bulgaria;
- representatives of the European Youth Capitals Varna (Bulgaria) and Cascais (Portugal);
- representatives of the Council of Europe and of the Advisory Council on Youth.

From a **methodological perspective**, the seminar would combine a variety of formal and non-formal (and very practical) ways of learning, networking and understanding the potential of the European Youth Card, such as meetings with representatives of national public authorities, presentations on models of implementation of the European Youth Card in various countries, including as a tool to implement policies and provide services to young people.

Draft programme of the seminar:

DAY 1 – 14 December 2017	
14.00	Welcome address by hosts and organisers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EYCA representative • Representative of Ministry of Youth and Sport, Bulgaria (tbc) • Representative of Varna Municipality • Representative of Council of Europe • EYCA Member organisation Round of introductions from participants
General session	
14.30 -16.00	Presentation and discussion: The Partial Agreement and its role in the implementation of youth policies in member states – examples of good practice from governments
16.00 – 18.00	Varna sightseeing tour
19.30	Dinner
DAY 2 - 15 December 2017	
09.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting in hotel lobby
09.30 – 10.15	Mapping the youth policy landscape – Where can the European Youth Card have a role in national and transnational cooperation
GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES	
10.30 – 11.15	The European Youth Card and effective youth policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euro<26 card Bulgaria The role of card in youth programmes • CJP Card, The Netherlands The cultural role of the Youth Card • Carne Jove, Madrid – Spain The role of card in social inclusion Questions and answers
11.15 - 11.30	Coffee break
GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES (continued)	

11.30 – 13.00	<p>The European Youth Card and effective youth policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young Scot, Scotland, UK The Youth Card as a tool for youth engagement • Movijovem, Portugal The Youth Card promoting mobility • Karta Žgħazagħ, Malta The role of the Youth Card in youth work
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
YOUTH CARDS & PROMOTING YOUTH ACHIEVEMENTS	
14.00 – 18.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of European Youth Capitals Network and reflection on possible future cooperation between both organisations • Presentation of other national initiatives in 2018 (and beyond) and reflection on the possible role of the youth card
18.00 – 18.15	Closing remarks
19.30	<p>Ceremonial dinner of the European Youth Capitals</p> <p>Symbolic ceremony of signing the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility by Bulgaria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Ivan Portnih, Varna Municipality, Mayor • Mr Carlos Carreiras, Cascais, Mayor /tbc/ • Mr Krasen Kraleov, Ministry of Youth and Sport of Bulgaria, Minister /tbc/ • Mr Joao Paulo Rebelo, Secretary of State for Youth and Sport of Portugal /tbc/ • Luis Alvarado Martinez, European Youth Forum, President /tbc/
DAY 3 – 16 December 2017	
Departures	