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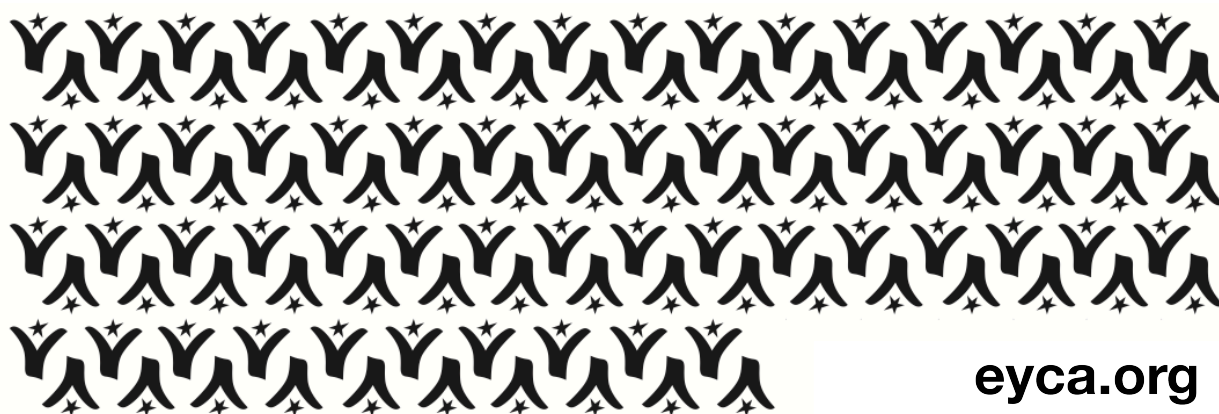


European Youth  
Card Association

# SEMINAR

## PARTIAL AGREEMENT & THE EUROPEAN YOUTH CARD: 30 YEARS IMPLEMENTING YOUTH POLICIES

Council of Europe Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility Through the Youth Card and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) invite you to a Promotional Seminar on **28 September 2016** in **Sitges, Barcelona, Spain**.



[eyca.org](http://eyca.org)

# CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

## INTRODUCTION

### I. ABOUT THE PARTIAL AGREEMENT

The **Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card** was set up by a Committee of Ministers' Resolution in 1991 at the initiative of the then Secretary General of the Council of Europe as a follow-up to the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for youth held in 1991 in Lisbon, **for the purpose of promoting and facilitating youth mobility in Europe.**

The Partial Agreement is part of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe and thus follows the priorities and objectives of both the youth sector and the Council of Europe as a whole.

### PARTIAL AGREEMENT MEMBER STATES TO DATE

Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, The Netherlands, Portugal, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Slovakia and Switzerland.

### AIMS OF THE PARTIAL AGREEMENT

The overall objective of the Partial Agreement is for member governments and EYCA member organisations to work together to create better mobility solutions for young people. **Anyone** under the age of 30 can become a youth card-holder – a young person does not need to be a student or a resident of a European country. This general objective implies two main aims:

#### 1. Development of the Youth Card scheme

The Statute of the Partial Agreement states: "The Partial Agreement shall be aimed at developing the Youth Card scheme, particularly at European level in the best interests of young people [...] with a view to **facilitating their mobility** as well as their access to the various goods and services necessary for their **personal and cultural development.**" Youth cards provide access of young people to advice, discounts and benefits in the fields of mobility, accommodation, culture, language courses, services and products both on-line and off-line.

The youth card is also a youth information tool which provides young people with a mixture of information, ideas and incentives to help them become confident, informed and active citizens. This is done in a variety of formats, including online, social media, apps, magazines, and phone so that young people can access information in a way they find best. Through a combination of incentives young people are encouraged to volunteer, abroad or in their local community, to lead a healthy life style, to try new positive experiences, improve their education in formal and non-formal ways, etc.

Youth cards provide an opportunity for young people to start-up or get actively involved in youth initiatives and youth-led campaigns and thus enhances young people's active and constructive participation in society.

Youth cards allow to reach out not only to organised youth but primarily to non-organised young people.

## **2. Development of better youth policies with and for member governments**

The second goal is to cater to the interests and needs of the member governments on youth mobility and youth card issues. The work programme (seminars, workshops, symposia, field visits, etc.) is devised in such a way as to:

- generate and mobilise knowledge on the issues of youth mobility, youth card and youth policy in general
- share best practices among member governments, EYCA organisations and other actors in the youth field (youth and social workers, NGOs, Eurodesk, ERYICA, European Commission)
- as a result, offer better policy solutions.

These activities are followed by Best Practice publications (GPS series) and recommendations for specific actions to member states and EYCA national member organisations.

A wide range of stakeholders is activated for that purpose: governments, European institutions, business community, experts, academics, youth NGOs, national youth card organisations as well as young card holders. A wide range of stakeholders is activated for that purpose: governments, European institutions, business community, experts, academics, youth NGOs, national youth card organisations as well as young card holders themselves. Thus, member states both actively contribute to and benefit from the expertise of the Partial Agreement.

From the start, the main partner of the Partial Agreement has been the European Youth Card Association (EYCA).

## II. ABOUT EYCA

EYCA – the European Youth Card Association – is an association of 37 member organisations in 35 countries. EYCA's vision is a Europe where *all* young people are mobile and active. EYCA member organisations work together to stimulate more young people to be socially, culturally, educationally and economically mobile throughout Europe by:

- delivering quality European Youth Card services, and
- contributing to better policy on youth mobility and active citizenship.

Today approximately 6 million European youth cardholders benefit from the opportunities offered by EYCA member organisations.

In addition to discounts and benefits, EYCA member organisations work to offer cardholders various projects and programmes. Major programme areas include:

- Boosting youth employability and entrepreneurship through non-formal learning projects and internship schemes;
- Active citizenship and political participation;
- Rewards programmes encouraging positive lifestyles;
- Community engagement and volunteering;
- Supporting inclusive youth mobility for young people with disabilities and disadvantaged backgrounds, etc.

## THE SEMINAR

The Partial Agreement's promotional seminar on "Partial Agreement and the European Youth Card: 30 years implementing youth policies" is part of the 2016 programme of activities of the Partial Agreement. 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.

### Aims and objectives

- to present the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card;
- to present practices of Partial Agreement member states in youth card and youth mobility issues;
- to show best cases of EYCA members supporting the implementation of youth policies in member states.

A one-day seminar will combine a keynote lecture, a panel session, a possible field visit and discussions/exchanges of best practices in the plenary. It will be held in English.

## Organisers

- Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card
- European Youth Card Association (EYCA)

## Cooperating Partners

- Agència Catalana de la Joventut - EYCA member organisation in Catalonia, Spain
- Generalitat de Catalunya, Spain
- Municipality of Sitges, Barcelona

Carnet Jove de Catalunya is one of the most successful organizations in Spain and also in Europe developing the European Youth Card program. More than half a million young people in Catalonia have the EYC and access to all the services that are associated with the card.

Also the Catalan government uses this program as a tool to implement different youth policies, and to communicate with young people, bringing an important social aspect to the develop of the card, so this model is very good example of how local, regional or national governments can use the European Youth Card to promote their programs and to empower young people.

## Profile of the participants

The promotional seminar is aimed, first and foremost, at the representatives of national authorities dealing with youth affairs from states not party to the Partial Agreement.

Interested EYCA member organisations will also take part.

## Dates, venue and other technicalities

The seminar will be held on 28 September 2016 in Sitges, 30 km from Barcelona. Participants are expected to arrive on 27 September and depart on 29 September. Transport will be provided from the airport to the hotel.

The seminar will be held in the **HOTEL MEDIUM SITGES PARK**

<https://www.mediumhoteles.com/en/spain/sitges/centro/hotel-medium-sitges-park>

Carrer de Jesús, 16, 08870, Spain

N 41° 14' 13.14'' - E 01° 48' 36.88''

Tel: +34 938 94 02 50 | Fax: +34 938 94 08 39

[sitgespark@mediumhoteles.com](mailto:sitgespark@mediumhoteles.com)

Participants' travel costs, meals and accommodation will be covered.

Travel costs will be reimbursed directly by EYCA upon presentation of travel documents and a filled Request for reimbursement (attached). The request and travel proof should be handed to EYCA Secretariat during the stay at the seminar.

You are kindly requested to organise your travel in the most cost-effective way.

The deadline to apply for participation is 24 August 2016, 23:59 CET.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Seminar!