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LEARNING EQUALITY  
LIVING DIGNITY

# ***COMPASS*** **TRAINING COURSES 2025**

Human Rights Education with Young People

**Call for**  
**Partnerships for National Activities**

Deadline: **15 January 2025**

## BACKGROUND

The Council of Europe Youth Department work on human rights education with and by young people is contribution to a core mission of the institution in promoting a culture of human rights through the implementation of the [Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education](#). EDC/HRE Charter emphasises the role of member states of the Council of Europe in making human rights education a reality for every person in Europe and the importance of quality education to promote human rights, democracy and rule of law, the core values of the institution.

The [Human Rights Education Youth Programme](#) plays a central role in this and in the 2030 Strategy of the youth sector, through its key features:

- Provision of educational resources for human rights education for youth work and non-formal learning, notably through [Compass](#), [Compasito](#) and [Mirrors](#);
- Advocacy for the inclusion of human rights education youth policy and youth work;
- Renewing the informal networks of trainers and multipliers and supporting the qualitative development of training for human rights education at national and European level;
- Supporting multipliers and advocates for human rights education through the Compass national and regional<sup>1</sup> training courses (Compass NRTCs).

This is also reflected in the [Roadmap for education for democratic citizenship and human rights](#) education with young people adopted by the Joint Council on Youth in October 2023.

## 2025 COMPASS TRAINING COURSES

Traditionally, the Compass national training courses are initiated by national or regional organisations and/or institutions that are committed to providing and ensuring the quality of EDC/HRE, with the support of the Council of Europe Youth Department.

The cooperation in 2025 is envisioned in a new format that relies on strategic partnerships. This means that the programme of Compass courses in 2025 will be smaller in number but targeted in a national or regional context to which the courses will bring a unique added value. Strategic partnerships and activities are those that have the potential to advocate for, mobilise, and initiate processes at national level that are likely improve the recognition, support for, provision and quality of human rights education with, for and by young people. Such training courses can, for example:

- Be related to the publication and launching of a **new language version of Compass** or Compasito;
- Be carried out in cooperation between providers of human rights education in the **formal and non-formal education** contexts;
- Enjoy a specific support or **recognition by public authorities** in charge of youth

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<sup>1</sup> **Regional** is to be understood as cross borders (i.e. neighbouring countries) or covering countries sharing a common language.

and/or education policies;

- Address a specific and important group of **multipliers and advocates** (e.g. teacher trainers, trainers in non-formal education);
- Adopt a particularly solid, innovative or **consistent educational approach** that is likely to have a long-lasting effect on the participants and on the context for HRE in the country or region.

Financial and other resources are nonetheless available to other youth-led activities for human rights education, notably through pilot activity grants by the [European Youth Foundation](#) to be carried out in 2025. Deadlines for applications: 1 February, 15 May, 1 September 2025.

The partnerships for Compass activities in 2025 are support measures put into place by the Youth Department of the Council of Europe to encourage national or regional organisations or institutions in initiating or extending human rights education activities with young people through Compass activities. The support measures are *on-demand provision of assistance and cooperation* by the Council of Europe Youth Department, which means that upon reception of the expression of interest, the secretariat will assess the type of support, expertise and cooperation that can be envisaged, *together with* the partner organisation or institution. The following types of support measures for these activities available for partners, namely:

### **Educational support**

- Contracting competent and experienced trainers to support the educational team.
- Educational advice by the secretariat regarding based on the quality standards and practices of the European Youth Centre.
- Provision of educational materials and resources of the Council of Europe logo.
- Opportunities for members of partner teams to participate in capacity-building activities at the European Youth Centres, with relevant expenses covered.

### **Institutional support**

- Visibility of activities on the Council of Europe online media.
- Recommendation letters to potential partners and funders.
- Official representation of the Council of Europe at the activities.
- Linking activities to national youth policy institutions for outreach, visibility, and recognition, including the engagement of a representative from the European Steering Committee for Youth, responsible for youth matters in the respective country.
- Mobilising other partners and stakeholders through the Council of Europe networks.
- Communication with publishers of the translation of Compass and Compasito manuals.
- Printing and publication of newly translated Compass and Compasito manuals.

In some cases, the Council of Europe Youth Department may take on directly the costs of some measures, such as missions and advice of experts, provision of trainers or educational resources. This will be assessed and decided case-by-case based on the needs expressed, the means available and the contribution of the partner(s).

## CONDITIONS FOR PARTNERSHIPS

Partnership proposals are welcome for activities that:

- a) Aim at developing the competences (knowledge, skills, attitudes and values) of key multipliers in human rights education with young people.
- b) Will result in or include measures to support formal or informal national or regional networks for human rights education with young people.
- c) Foresee a programme and methodology based on the approaches outlined in Compass and the activities it proposes.
- d) Support and advocate for EDC/HRE at national level based on the [Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education](#).
- e) Link with and building upon previous or ongoing initiatives, projects and programmes on human rights education with young people at national level.
- f) Are open to participants from a variety of organisations and institutions.
- g) Have a minimum duration of 5 consecutive days.
- h) Involve at least 18 and a maximum of 40 participants/learners.

Further information can be found in the COMPASS training courses: a [handbook](#) for organisers.

Preference will be given to the cooperation with partners that propose activity fulfilling the following conditions of the [Roadmap for education for democratic citizenship and human rights education with young people](#) (2024-2028):

- 1) Are youth-led or organised in co-operation between two or more partners emphasising youth civil society organisations.
- 2) Are to be organised by partners that translated Compass or Compasito (or other manuals of the Youth Department) in their own cost or mobilised other resources for it.
- 3) Are to be held in countries where newly published translations of Compass or Compasito are introduced or where the Council of Europe has existing cooperation in a form of an [action plan](#).
- 4) Are to be held in countries where no similar course has been organised in the past three years<sup>2</sup>.
- 5) Foresee cooperation between the non-formal and formal educational sectors and actors, as well as engaging a diverse range of participants with various backgrounds.
- 6) Support the development of communities of practice around a shared understanding EDC/HRE and priorities for advocacy and action in the countries where

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<sup>2</sup> In 2022-2024 courses were held in Albania, Andorra, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom

the courses are held.

## PROFILE OF THE PARTNERS

The partners may be regional/national/local organisations or institutions registered in one of 50 state parties to the [European Cultural Convention](#) and interested developing the provisions and quality of EDC/HRE in their country or region, such as:

- non-governmental youth organisations and/or other non-governmental organisations (including national branches/members of European youth organisations);
- governmental organisations focused on human rights, youth and/or education;
- institutions involved in human rights education;
- national networks of human rights activists and/or human rights educators (including national branches/members of European youth organisations).

Partners are expected to have sufficient financial capacity to carry out the activity throughout the period by their own resources (including human resources, in-kind contributions or income generated by the activity) or through other funding sources, private or public, national or international.

## SUBMITTING AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Council of Europe welcomes expressions of interest from interested partners that align with the profile of the partners described above. Partnerships between organisations, especially public institutions, human rights actors and youth civil society organisations are particularly encouraged.

To submit your expression of interest, please fill in the online form for expression of interest which is open at <https://youthapplications.coe.int/>. The candidates who are using the platform for the first time are required to create an account by [the link](#).

## PROCEDURES AND CALENDAR

The proposed measures should be implemented from **1 April** to **30 November 2025**. In specific cases, the Council of Europe may agree to support preparatory work in 2025 for projects that will be implemented in 2026.

The deadline for reporting is 30 days after the course concluded.

Upon receiving the expressions of interest and assessing their relevance, the secretariat of the Council of Europe Youth Department will contact the partners concerned and initiate the procedures for formalising the partnerships, including forms of educational, institutional or financial support. This process should be concluded by **mid-February 2025**.

Deadline for submitting expressions of interest: **15 January 2025** at 23:59 CET at <https://youthapplications.coe.int/>

For any further information please contact [youth.HRE@coe.int](mailto:youth.HRE@coe.int) .