



МИНИСТЕРСТВО НАУКИ  
И ВЫСШЕГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ  
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ



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## **XII International Youth Camp "Dialogue"**

### **RENEWING THE AGENDA FOR DIALOGUE**

Ethnographic educational and cultural centre "Ethnomir"  
(Kaluga Region, Russian Federation)

11-17 July 2021

**CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS**

Deadline: 17 June 2021

## **Council of Europe: Living Together as Equals in Dignity**

Promoting intercultural dialogue contributes to the core objectives of the Council of Europe, namely preserving and promoting human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

The [White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue](#) adopted in 2008 defines intercultural dialogue as an “open and respectful exchange of views between individuals, groups with different ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic backgrounds and heritage on the basis of mutual understanding and respect”.

Intercultural dialogue requires freedom and the ability to express ourselves, as well as the willingness and ability to listen to the opinions of others. It promotes political, social, cultural and economic integration and the cohesion of multicultural societies;

Intercultural dialogue aims to develop a deeper understanding of different worldviews and behaviors, increase the level of cooperation and involvement (or freedom of choice), create conditions for personal development, and promote tolerance and respect for the other. It operates at all levels – within societies, between the societies of Europe and between Europe and the wider world.

The White Paper argues that the acquisition and teaching of intercultural competences are processes that are crucial and extremely important for fostering democratic culture and social cohesion.

Today, intercultural understanding and intercultural competences remain very important for humanity to address global issues and challenges such as the Covid19 pandemic, the environment and climate crisis or the backsliding of democracy and human rights. These add to on-going and often worsening realities of racism and discrimination that accompany populist discourses and policies and threaten the fabric of societies constituted by a great wealth and diversity of cultural, religious, linguistic and social backgrounds.

Education and awareness leading to action play a very important role in understanding the importance of intercultural dialogue, but also its limits. Increasing levels of inequality, competition for power and access to resources, the recourse to armed force as a way to address conflicts and flagrant disrespect for human rights and dignity cannot be addressed by education alone: they require the possibility for citizens to act and exercise citizenship and human rights in freedom.

In her 2021 report about the state of human rights, democracy and the rule of law, *A democratic renewal for Europe*, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe lists some of the reasons for serious concern which include:

- Increase in hate speech and hate crimes with a particular stigmatisation of Roma and migrants in the context of Covid-19
- the rise of xenophobia and racism also infringing on the democratic space of national minorities sometimes leading to exclusion from political discourse and decision making
- deep inequalities in access to inclusive, quality education and training
- violence against women and domestic violence

All these issues concern all European societies and, therefore, impact on the life perspectives and conditions of cooperation for youth leaders involved in dialogue and youth exchanges.

## **Youth for Democracy:** Living together in peaceful and inclusive societies

[The 2030 Strategy of the Council of Europe youth sector](#) recognises the importance of of intercultural dialogue and the role of young people therein by making living together in peaceful and inclusive societies a priority of the youth sector, which includes:

- better equipping stakeholders to tackle both the challenges of building inclusive societies through policies, programmes and projects that embrace diversity and of effectively monitoring and countering discrimination, violence and exclusion;
- allowing young people, including those experiencing any form of discrimination and exclusion, to benefit from opportunities that develop their commitment to and exercise of democratic citizenship;
- embedding key foundations, such as European unity, global solidarity, peace, diversity, intercultural and intergenerational dialogue and environmental sustainability, more prominently in policy, practice and research within and beyond the youth sector;
- strengthening young people's capacities, agency and leadership to prevent violence, transform conflict and to build a culture of peace through substantial support for funding, building networks and recognising the full diversity of young people and their ways of organising themselves.

The Youth for Democracy programme supports the role of young people and youth organisations in these processes through study sessions, support to intercultural youth activities and the organisation of trend-setting pilot activities such as the Youth Peace Camp and the International Youth Camp Dialogue. Since 2009, this camp is a practical space for youth leaders to explore and engage in dialogue and communication.

The camp is organised within the Framework Programme on Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Russian Federation in the field of youth policy.

### **International Youth Camp "Dialogue" in 2021**

Every year, the camp brings together young leaders and activists, representatives of youth organisations, youth centres and informal groups - those who are already engaged in projects in the field of intercultural dialogue and would like to raise their competencies in this area, as well as those who are still planning to launch activities on this topic.

The methodology and programme of the activity are based on a unique atmosphere where participants have the opportunity to raise their awareness about intercultural dialogue and "live" intercultural dialogue by engaging with participants from a wide variety of backgrounds and nationalities.

The 2021 camp edition of the camp will also make clear connections with the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, notably SDG 10 (reduce inequalities within and among countries) and SDG 16 (promoting peaceful and inclusive societies).

### **Aim**

The 2021 camp aims to strengthen the quality and relevance of the work of youth organisations for intercultural dialogue and peace, as well as counteracting discrimination and violence in society, by reviewing and renewing the purpose of intercultural dialogue in a global context marked by the Covid-19 pandemic and the climate crisis.

## Objectives

- to explore the principles and approaches of intercultural learning and its role in the projects and activities of youth organisations
- to increase intercultural competences and motivation for leading youth projects in the field of intercultural dialogue
- to discuss and share the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on young people and on intercultural dialogue
- to explore the impact of the climate and environmental crisis on global peace and dialogue and incorporate them in future dialogue activities as a contribution to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- to analyse the current challenges of promoting intercultural dialogue and countering discrimination in society and to develop possible responses through youth projects
- to expand the community of practice of youth activists promoting advocating for intercultural dialogue, peace and human dignity.

## Co-organisers

The activity is co-organised by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, the National Youth Council of Russia and the Youth Department of the Council of Europe with the support of the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Education "MIREA - Russian Technological University".

## Methodology

The camp's programme is based on the principles and practices of non-formal education and is drawn up using a learner-centered approach, taking into account the needs, interests and experiences of the participants.

Participants will be able to make their own contribution to the programme through creation of their projects, and also dissemination the knowledge and experience gained among y young people in their communities.

Experts and trainers from the National Council of Russia and the Council of Europe, representatives of authorities, political scientists, sociologists, and media representatives will also contribute to the programme.

## Participants

The International Youth Camp Dialogue will bring together some 100 participants actively involved in projects in for intercultural dialogue with young people. Participants will come two main two main groups:

- representatives of youth and ethnocultural organisations from the Russian Federation
- members and multipliers of youth organisations from signatory States to the European Cultural Convention and member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

All participants must:

- be aged between 18 and 35 years
- be motivated to take an active part in all the programme of the camp
- be interested in the development of projects on intercultural dialogue
- be ready in multiplying the experience and knowledge gained during the camp

- be ready to take part in all activities planned within the camp programme
- be able to communicate in English or in Russian

## Working languages

Working languages of the camp are Russian and English. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided during the plenary sessions.

## Financial conditions of participation and technical information

### *Participants from the Russian Federation:*

The co-organisers will provide transfer from Moscow to the camp site and back for all participants, as well as meals and accommodation in double rooms. These participants cover their trip to Moscow themselves or by their sending organisation.

### *Other (international) participants:*

The Council of Europe will cover the travel to and from Moscow, the visa fee, as well as accommodation in double rooms and meals during the camp programme for 25 "international" participants.

The co-organisers will provide the support for visa arrangement and entry to the Russian Federation for the international participants who might require it. The event will be organised in the respect of the sanitary and epidemiological requirements of Rospotrebnadzor.

## Application and selection procedures

All interested candidates from the **Russian Federation** are invited to fill out an online application available at <https://forms.gle/eisw5B9hL8QB7m8S9> or in the AIS "Youth of Russia" by **10:00 Moscow time 25 June 2021**.

Candidates from **other countries** part of the European Cultural Convention are invited to fill out an online application form **by 23:59 CET on 17 June 2021** through the platform of the Council of Europe Youth Department at <https://youthapplications.coe.int/Application-forms>

All participants will be selected by the co-organisers on the basis of a completed application and taking into account considering the participants' unique experience, motivation and balanced diversity in the whole group. Selected applicants will receive additional information and instruction for their preparation.

The organisers welcomes applications from all candidates who fulfil the specific profile of the activities, irrespective of gender, disability, marital or parental status, racial, ethnic or social origin, colour, religion, belief or sexual orientation.

## Further information

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## Other joint activities of National Youth Council of Russia and the Council of Europe

If you are interested in participating in other events in the field of intercultural dialogue, international youth work and human rights education, please consult the following webpages: <http://www.youthrussia.ru/> [www.coe.int/youth](http://www.coe.int/youth)