



## SEMINAR ON DIASPORA YOUTH AS AGENTS FOR INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION

In the framework of the 18<sup>th</sup> edition of the University on Youth and Development  
CEULAJ, Mollina (Spain) 18 – 23 September 2017

### CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

#### Youth cooperation and Global Education at the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe

Created in 1989, the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity, or 'North-South Centre of the Council of Europe', was set up with the purpose of spreading the universal values upheld by the Council of Europe (CoE) – human rights, democracy and the rule of law – in Europe and beyond. Since its inception, the North-South Centre (NSC) has been advocating a dialogue between the North and the South, fostering solidarity, creating partnerships, and raising awareness about global interdependence.

The specific mission of the Centre is to empower civil society, in particular youth and women, through intercultural dialogue and global citizenship education, to play an active role in CoE member states and neighbouring regions, notably through its multilateral activities.

The objective of the Youth Cooperation programme of the NSC is to promote youth participation through training and capacity building courses aimed at young people and youth organisations to promote their understanding of Global Development Education (GDE) and to facilitate their participation in decision and policy-making processes at all levels of governance.

#### Seminar on Diaspora Youth as agents for inclusive societies and development education

##### Background

Globalisation brought about a dramatic increase in the volume and scope of international migration. This mobility has been transforming societies and cultures, creating diasporas and developing transnational identities.

Diasporas perform as a cultural, economic and political bridge with the "homeland" societies, becoming prominent actors in development cooperation and agents for the promotion of democratic values and human rights. In fact, governments at both ends of the migration cycle increasingly recognize that diasporas play a unique transnational role as catalysts and connectors between countries of origin and residence.

The numerous accomplishments of diasporas must be seen as successful stories of double integration, offering tremendous opportunities for building inclusive societies, connecting different countries and identities.



In times of armed conflicts, large-scale arrivals of displaced people and increasing radicalisation and populism, that has made Europe witness growing discrimination, violent extremism and hate speech, diasporas can also play a prominent role in shattering negative stereotypes.

In this context, the North South Centre of the Council of Europe pays special attention to the role of diaspora youth. Exploring this phenomenon and learning from the youth diaspora experiences it is an effort that could substantially contribute to the integration policies and for the further development of global/development education in Europe.

Building up from previous successful experiences with youth leaders of Diasporas – specifically African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe – the NSC will continue to work with different groups of Diaspora communities as strategic partners for the promotion of more inclusive societies.

## Definition of Diaspora

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For the purpose of this Action, the definition of Diaspora follows the four features of K. Butler: First, after dispersal or migration, there must be a minimum of two destinations because the word “diaspora” (from the greek διασπορά) implies a scattering, rather than a transfer from the homeland to a single destination. Second, there must be some relationship to an actual or imagined homeland. This bond provides the foundation for a diaspora identity. Third, there must be self-awareness of the group’s identity. Diaspora communities are consciously part of an ethnonational group; this consciousness binds the dispersed peoples not only to their homeland but to each other as well. Fourth: a temporal-historical dimension: the existence of the population with these three characteristics for at least two generations. There is a multi-generational dimension to diaspora that also needs to be considered in its definition. This allows, for example, differentiating a diaspora population from a temporary exiled population that can return to their homeland in one generation.

## Aim and Specific Objectives

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The seminar course has two main aims:

- to explore the understanding of youth diaspora, the challenges and the potentials that such groups can bring to the development of their own communities and their “homeland or origin” countries;
- to promote and enhance the capacity of diaspora youth to create more inclusive communities through quality initiatives and policies in the framework of GDE/GE.

The specific objectives of the course are:

- to identify and share practices and initiatives that support the development of more inclusive communities in the framework of GDE/GE;
- to allow the identification of needs that will support the development of future capacity building programmes within the iLegend project;
- to develop a better understanding of intercultural education, intercultural learning and intercultural competences of diaspora youth leaders;
- to engage and empower diaspora youth to become leaders in the community by providing a series of competences and tools to promote and disseminate principles of GDE to other young people from diaspora.
- to provide the space for networking and exchange of best practices among diaspora youth;



## The Framework of the Training Course: the 18<sup>th</sup> University on Youth and Development (UYD)

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The seminar takes place in the framework of the 18<sup>th</sup> University on Youth and Development (UYD) organised by the North-South Center of the Council of Europe in partnership with the Spanish Government (INJUVE), the European Youth Forum (YFJ), the Spanish Youth Council (CJE), the Latin American Youth Forum (FLACJ) and other international youth organisations and youth serving organisations.

Since its first edition in 2000, the University takes place once a year bringing together representatives of youth organisations and youth movements from Europe, neighbouring regions and beyond who gather in CEULAJ (Euro-Latin-American Youth Centre) to discuss, train and be trained as well as to take political action around the main issues on the global agenda.

The University is the oldest sister in the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship<sup>1</sup>, facilitated by the NSC in partnership with other relevant stakeholders who aim at providing an exceptional space for young people and youth organisations around the world to meet, debate, build their capacities and co-operate on youth policy related issues.

Each year, an overarching theme is chosen to connect the different Universities of the Network. In 2017 the theme chosen is “Developing Global Identities”. This year’s theme would allow participants and political representatives to reflect on how youth and diaspora organisations and youth work can empower young people as global citizens to celebrate their diverse identities, face their vulnerabilities and unleash their potential to contribute to the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Global Agenda 2030. You can read the full concept note [here](#).

The seminar on Diaspora youth as agents for inclusive societies and development education is part of the iLegend project: Intercultural Learning Exchange through Global Education, Networking and Dialogue co-funded by the Council of Europe and the Civil Society and Local Authorities Programme of the European Union.

The seminar is intended as the first step of a longer process that will encompass further initiatives in the area of capacity building, networking and advocacy with the intention to create more inclusive communities through youth diaspora-led quality initiatives and policies in the framework of GDE/GE.

## Methodology

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The programme will be prepared and conducted by an intercultural team of facilitators and trainers taking into account the following principles:

- The experience of the participants is valued and placed at the centre of the process;
- Intercultural learning and non-formal education approaches (learner-centeredness, practical learning, dialogical learning and implication of the learners in the process)

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<sup>1</sup> The Network, created in 2011, currently includes the University on Youth and Development (UYD, Spain) and the Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship (MedUni, Tunisia). The Network also included the African University on Youth and Development (AUJD, Cape Verde and Kenya) and the University of Participation and Citizenship (UPC, Uruguay), not active at the moment.



- Addressing all issues that are of relevance, also taking into account what participants can do about them (education, action, projects)
- Taking advantage of the environment of the UYD for intercultural learning and group-building and of the possibilities to meet youth work and youth policy actors present at the CEULAJ during those dates.

Resource persons, experts and guest speakers will be invited by North-South Centre of the Council of Europe for specific functions or inputs in the programme.

## Selection procedure

### Profile of the Participants

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Candidates will be considered for the selection phase on the basis of the following eligibility criteria to be fulfilled by the deadline for applications:

- be a citizen from one of the [Council of Europe member states](#)
- be a leader of a diaspora-related organisation/association based in one of the Council of Europe member states that has youth as a priority;
- be between 18 and 35 years old;
- be able to work and communicate in English;
- be available for the whole duration of the seminar
- be available and willing to follow-up the Seminar and contribute to the next steps of the project as strategic partner.

The selection process will seek gender balance and will assure representation of participants coming from different diaspora backgrounds.

The selection will be carried out by the North-South Centre.

### Travel, board and lodging

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The North-South Centre will issue pre-paid flight round-trip tickets from your country to Malaga. Arrivals are expected on 17<sup>th</sup> September and departures on 24<sup>th</sup> September. Transfers from and to the airport/train station in Malaga will be ensured by the organisers. It is expected that participants/background organisations support expenses related to local transport in the home country, as well as visa costs. Please look for information regarding health and visa needs that you might have to attend the activity.

The board and lodging for the full duration of the training course is covered (accommodation and meals). Participants will be accommodated in double/triple rooms.

### Selection processes

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In order to apply candidates should fill the online [application form](#) and send a recommendation letter.

The letter of recommendation shall be prepared by the candidates' sending structure stated in the application form and sent to the following e-mail address: [nsc.youthandglobalisation@coe.int](mailto:nsc.youthandglobalisation@coe.int)



Both, the application form and the recommendation letter should arrive by the stated deadline. The recommendation letter has to come in .pdf or .jpg file named with the name of the candidate participant.

Please note that each organization could support only one candidate (in case of international organization: one participant for each national or local branch). The letter is accepted only in English or French.

Only candidates who fulfilled eligibility criteria, and whose application and recommendation letter are submitted by the closing date of the call will be considered for the selection. The final results will be announced within 2 weeks after the call is closed.

Please note that only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted, and that due to the large number of applications individual requests and follow up questions will not be addressed, unless considered as assistance to the application process.

**For more information**, please contact NSC-CoE Secretariat:  
[nsc.youthandglobalisation@coe.int](mailto:nsc.youthandglobalisation@coe.int)