



LIVING COMPASS

Training course with multipliers for human rights education with young people

A blended learning training comprising:

Online learning - **May to September**

Residential seminar at the European Youth Centre Budapest
23-30 September 2024

Follow-up activities - **October-December**

Call for Participants

Deadline to apply **15 April 2024**, 23:59 CET

Organised in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Localising human rights education with young people

The work on human rights education of the Youth Department touches on the essence of the Council of Europe in promoting a culture of human rights in Europe and is carried out through the [Human Rights Education Youth Programme](#), created to support the mainstreaming of human rights education in youth work and youth policy.

To make this work possible and tangible, the Council of Europe published [Compass](#), the manual for human rights education with young people, translated in over 30 languages. Compass provides youth leaders, teachers and facilitators of human rights education activities, whether professional or volunteers, with concrete ideas and practical activities to engage, involve and motivate young people in living, learning and acting for human rights. It promotes a comprehensive perspective on human rights education and sees young people as actors for a culture of universal human rights. Compass is a practical tool and resource for citizenship and human rights education. It is an essential companion for all those who are curious and interested in making the right to human rights education a reality for everyone.

With the adoption of the [Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education](#) in 2010 (EDC/HRE Charter), emphasis is given to 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 Charter provides the basis for advancing human rights education at local and regional level by defining objectives and principles applying to policy, legislation and practice.

The work of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe supports the implementation of the Charter by providing youth organisations, youth leaders and young people throughout Europe with tools that could help them in their projects and activities relating to human rights and human rights education.

The Human Rights Education Youth Programme plays a central role 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](#) and [Compasito](#);
- 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 programme of Compass national and regional training courses.

In view of supporting activists, educators, advocates, trainers and facilitators of non-formal education and youth work activities to introduce young people to a culture of human rights, the Council of Europe introduced in 2002 the course Training of Trainers on Human Rights Education (TOTHERE). This course has been run on a regular basis almost every year since then and has been instrumental in supporting the quality of the programme of Compass national training courses as well as the credibility of human rights education by young people.

Following the 2022 review of the implementation of the EDC/HRE Charter, the Joint Council on Youth adopted in 2023 a [Roadmap for education for democratic citizenship and human rights education with young people \(2024-2028\)](#). The roadmap considers the “localisation of human rights education as the most important priority”, allowing more young people to benefit

from, and contribute to, the core values of the Council of Europe. The active participation and agency of young people and youth organisations in providing and imparting human rights education is reaffirmed in the document as the distinctive feature of the Human Rights Education Youth Programme, and must be further promoted.

This is also closely connected with [Council of Europe's Reykjavik Declaration](#) and *the importance of education to give children and young people the necessary references to grow up embracing our democratic values in culturally diverse societies*. This further elaborated in the Reykjavik Principles for Democracy, which assign a particular role for youth participation, citizenship and human rights education in the commitment to:

(8) invest in a DEMOCRATIC FUTURE by ensuring that everyone is able to play their role in democratic processes. Priority will be given to support the participation of young persons in democratic life and decision-making processes, including through education about human rights and core democratic values, such as pluralism, inclusion, non-discrimination, transparency and accountability (...).

Living Compass: *about, through and for* human rights

These developments and expectations on the role of citizenship and human rights education with and by young people, invite for a renewal of the role of the Council of Europe training offer on human rights education. Two dimensions in particular shape this renewal of the course:

- The concept of human rights education as being *about, for* and *through* human rights;
- The specificities of doing human rights education with young people, in which young people can be learners/beneficiaries and agents/multipliers of human rights education.

This is meant to be reflected in the idea of *LIVING COMPASS*: it is about practicing human rights education as proposed in the manual, and it is also about updating, contextualising, *localising* human rights education while remaining deeply consistent with the promotion of a culture of universal human rights. It is also about young people giving life to Compass, i.e., making it adapted and suitable to their realities, concerns and aspirations.

LIVING COMPASS is thus addressed to both activists, advocates, multipliers, trainers and facilitators of human rights education with young people, knowing that very often the same people perform these different roles.

The same approach relates also with the implementation of the [World Programme on Human Rights Education](#) and the relation with the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4](#) which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. The partnership with the UN Human Rights Commissioner's Office will thus be continued and strengthened; multipliers of human rights education benefit from a global perspective and approach that combines localization with universalisation.

The 2024 edition of the course will be held between May and December as a blended learning activity in three phases:

1. Creating common ground, with an emphasis on **Learning about Human Rights**, mostly through e-learning (May-September 2024).
2. Living and learning together, with an emphasis on **Learning together through human rights** - a residential training seminar to be held at the European Youth Centre Budapest from 23 to 30 September 2024 (*arrival date 22 September, departure date 1 October*).
3. Follow-up activities, with an emphasis on **Learning for human rights** (education) including e-learning and some form of mentoring (October-December 2024)



Aim and Objectives

LIVING COMPASS aims at supporting the provision and quality of human rights education with young people by developing the competences of multipliers in the context of local, national or international activities and projects and foster the implementation of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education and the UN World Programme on Human Rights Education.

Objectives

- To strengthen participants' understanding of key concepts of human rights and human rights education and their ability to put them in practice with young people;
- To develop essential competences, skills and attitudes for multipliers and advocates working with human rights education in non-formal learning settings;
- To familiarise participants with the approaches of [Compass](#) and with how to best use it and adapt it to local contexts and realities for both advocacy and practice of human rights education with young people;
- To support the provision, quality and sustainability of human rights education activities with young people;
- To analyse current global and local developments and trends in human rights education and favouring global solidarity for human rights education;
- To associate the participants and their organisations with the priorities of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe related to citizenship and human rights education and to the implementation of the United Nations World Programme on Human Rights Education.

Competences to be developed through the course

The course contents and methodology are designed so that the participants will be able to develop (or begin developing) core competences for multipliers in human rights education with young people. The list of competences below will be the reference for planning and monitoring learning in the course:

- 1 Knowledge of major instruments for the protection and promotion of human rights and the ability to connect them with the lives of young people;
- 2 The capacity to lead and facilitate conversations on global and contemporary human rights issues and dilemmas;
- 3 The ability to credibly introduce and advocate for human rights education as an educational concept and a social necessity, and to liaise with stakeholders concerned with the promotion of human rights education at the global, national and local level.
- 4 The awareness and ability to identify human rights violations and abuses at both global and local level, and the ability to propose or facilitate action in a safe and credible manner that is compatible with a culture of human rights;
- 5 Knowledge about the relevant programmes and instruments of the Council of Europe for youth and human rights education and ability to connect with global initiatives such as the World Programme on Human Rights Education;
- 6 Critical thinking skills and the ability to create multiple perspectives on contemporary human rights issues and dilemmas;
- 7 The capacity to recognise and address the values and ethical norms underlying human rights and human rights education;
- 8 The capacity to engage with and address the needs and aspirations of young people for human rights education and to connect them with youth policies and programmes;
- 9 Intercultural learning competences, including empathy, tolerance of ambiguity, and distance to social roles when practising human rights education;

- 10 The ability to use COMPASS including the adaptation of its activities taking into consideration local realities, social contexts and the needs of target groups;
- 11 The ability to constructively deal with conflict in the context of human rights education activities;
- 12 Understanding key principles of non-formal education and their application in human rights education;
- 13 The capacity to assess and evaluate the results of human rights education activities and programmes;
- 14 The ability to work co-operatively;
- 15 The ability to facilitate learning processes in non-formal education based on Compass;
- 16 The ability to recognise and translate human rights value framework into personal, social and professional actions;
- 17 The ability to plan and monitor own learning.

Methodology and structure of the course

The course is designed to give participants the opportunity to experience and reflect upon concepts central to human rights education based on experiential learning approaches of using Compass. It is also designed as a dialogical and mutual learning situation, where participants can compare their approaches to human rights education in an intercultural approach and environment.

Contributions from experts in the field of human rights will contribute to establishing a conceptual framework and a common reference point for learning and communication. The course is also built around the expectation that participants will put in practice their learning by developing and implementing a human rights education project or activity throughout the course.

The e-learning and follow-up phases are a full part of the course structure and approach, even if the training seminar at the European Youth Centre Budapest remains the most important and visible phase.

Phase 1: Creating common ground, with an emphasis on **Learning about Human Rights**, May-September 2024

This phase will support participants to acquire core knowledge on human rights and human rights education which will be further addressed in the residential seminar. This phase includes also work with self-assessment of competences and personal learning planning. Participants need to commit around 2-3 hours per week to the e-learning phase before the seminar. *Full participation in this phase is a pre-condition to be invited for the residential seminar.*

Phase 2: Living and learning together, with an emphasis on **Learning together through human rights** - the residential training seminar, 23-30 September 2024

The seminar is an important moment for learning and skills developments within the training: the educational team and participants work together face-to-face in an intercultural environment where intensive group work supports individual learning. Participants will experience and explore activities and approaches from Compass as a starting point for learning further about human rights education. *The seminar will end with the finalisation of the planning of the human rights education projects and activities* to be implemented by the participants after the course. The seminar will take into account the evaluation of phase 1 and will involve design of human rights education projects and activities towards phase 3.

Phase 3: Follow-up activities, with an emphasis on **Learning for human rights (education)**, October-December 2024

This phase will consolidate learning of participants through their follow-up projects and activities, supported by the network of participants and trainers. Some new learning units will be proposed based on individual needs and priorities of participants. Participants need to commit around 2-3

hours per two weeks to the e-learning phase before the seminar.

Profile of participants

The training course is designed for participants who are:

- youth leaders and facilitators involved in human rights education through youth work activities and in other NGOs concerned with human rights education;
- youth workers, human rights activists and volunteers experienced in and intending to function as multipliers and advocates for human rights education with young people at local, national or international level;
- other educational professionals or experts interested in introducing non-formal learning methodologies in activities on human rights education with young people.

All participants must also:

- be able to work in English
- be aged between 18-30 years old, exceptions can be made if justified
- be resident of one of the countries state parties to the [European Cultural Convention](#); in exceptional cases some participants from other continents may also be invited
- be supported by a youth organisation or institution within which they can act as multipliers of HRE
- already have experience in working with young people
- be able and committed to act as multipliers in HRE as a result of the course
- be motivated to develop their competences in human rights education and to share their experiences with other participants
- be committed to attend for the full duration of the course, including the preparatory and follow-up phases (approximately 2 hours per week during Phases 1 and 3)
- be interested and able to develop and implement a human rights education project with young people (for example national training courses in human rights education, translation and dissemination of Compass, advocacy projects on human rights education or others as a follow-up of their participation in the course).

The Council of Europe 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.

Application, procedure and selection of participants

All candidates must apply on-line at <https://youthapplications.coe.int> Applications must be accompanied by a letter of support from their sending organisation/institution, to be uploaded on the platform. This letter should clearly state why the organisation thinks the candidate is suitable for the course; how their participation will benefit the organisation and that it is ready to support the applicant in the organisation of the human rights education project or activity. In case of several applicants from the same organisation, the support letter should indicate the priority of the applicants.

The Council of Europe will select up to 35 participants on the basis of the profile outlined above. It will try as far as possible to respect the organisations' priorities, but also to ensure a balance between genders, geographical regions, different types of experiences, cultural backgrounds and organisations, institutions and projects. A waiting list may be established. Candidates will be informed whether their application has been accepted or rejected, and if they have been put on the waiting list, by (date).

The full application form, including the support letter from sending organisation, must be submitted on-line at <https://youthapplications.coe.int> before **15 April 2024, 23:59 (CET)**.

Financial and practical conditions of participation

Travel expenses

Travel expenses and visa fees for the training seminar in Budapest will be reimbursed according to the rules of the Council of Europe. Only the participants who attend the entire seminar can be reimbursed.

Accommodation

Board and lodging for the residential training seminar will be provided and paid for by the Council of Europe at the European Youth Centre Budapest. The European Youth Centres are accessible to people with disabilities and can take measures to accommodate for any access needs of participants in this respect. Please provide the necessary information in your application form.

Enrolment fee

An enrolment fee of **60 Euros** is payable by each participant. This amount will be deducted from the amount to be reimbursed for travel expenses or paid directly at the seminar.

Working languages

English will be the working language of the training course, both for e-learning and the residential training seminar. Participants are required to be able to express themselves autonomously in English.

Further information

For any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Youth Department of the Council of Europe at eyc.programme@coe.int .

The deadline for applications is 15 April 2024, 23:59 CET

<https://youthapplications.coe.int>