



DFD-YD/ETD (2026) 1

Budapest, 7 January 2026

**Strength and Resilience of International Non-governmental
Youth Organisations**
Consultative meeting
21 – 23 January 2026
European Youth Centre Budapest

Draft programme

Tuesday, 20 January 2026

Arrival of participants

Registration

19:00 Dinner in the European Youth Centre in Budapest

Wednesday, 21 January 2026

9:30 Opening of the Consultative meeting, with:

- Balint Molnar, European Youth Centre in Budapest
- Mara Georgescu, European Youth Foundation
- Yael Ohana, Education, Training and Cooperation Division

9:45 Context and purpose of the consultative meeting

10:00 Getting to know each other

11:00 Break

11:30 The state of International Non-Governmental Youth Organisations (INYGOs)
(in working groups)

13:00 Lunch

14:30 The state of INGYOs (in working groups) (continued)

16:00 Break

16:30 Reports from working groups and reflection on main trends

18:00 Closure of the day

19:00 Dinner out

Thursday, 22 January 2026

9:30 The current context for the work of organisations, with:

- Alice Bergholtz, researcher
- Andreas Hieronymus, researcher
- Björn van Roozendaal, researcher

11:00 Break

11:30 Exploring dilemmas and paradoxes together

13:00 Lunch

14:30 Open Space – practices addressing issues of the Consultative meeting

16:00 Break

16:30 The Youth Department of the Council of Europe, its mandate, role, and possibilities of support for INGYOs

18:00 Closure of the day

19:00 Dinner

Friday, 23 January 2026

9:30 Proposals for further action by the Council of Europe and participants' organisations:

- Capacity building (training resources)
- Funding
- Advocacy and policy
- ...

11:00 Break

11:30 Presentation of the working groups

Conclusions of the rapporteur

Next steps and closure of the meeting

13:00 Lunch

Departures of participants

About the consultative meeting

The youth sector of the Council of Europe has started in 2025 a process of reflection on how to best support international non-governmental youth organisations to:

- develop and sustain their democratic governance and ensure a smooth organisational development,
- enhance their role in the context of the broader civil society's contribution to democracy and human rights, and to
- improve the effectiveness of their action with, for and by young people, including through their strategic cooperation with the Council of Europe.

This meeting is organised to consult with a varied group of representatives of international youth organisations on the state of the art of international youth organisations, on the challenges they are facing, and how the youth sector of the Council of Europe can support them.

The meeting objectives are:

1. Engage in a reflection on the state of the art of organisational needs among international youth organisations, especially in relation to
 - organisational management, including management of volunteers, internal procedures, management of information, project management and fundraising,
 - democratic governance, including leadership, engagement with member organisations, democratic decision-making arrangements,
 - strategy development and advocacy, including how to develop and implement missions and strategies, how to carry out actions to support certain causes, including towards institutions like the Council of Europe.
2. Develop ideas and propose forms of support international youth organisations and networks could benefit from in relation to the three mentioned areas

(support may include capacity building, mentoring, pairing of organisations, educational tools, funding, among others).

3. Make proposals for the elaboration of a training curriculum for capacity building activities to be organised by the youth sector of the Council of Europe starting from 2026.
4. Create an understanding of the mutual support that international youth organisations and the Council of Europe can offer each other for their respective and common objectives.