



DDP-YD/ETD (2020) 105

10 June 2020, Budapest

**CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS FOR E-LEARNING COURSE ON  
ADVOCACY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE**

**Course dates: 29 June – 29 July 2020**

**Deadline for application: 25 June 13:00 PM**

**LEARNING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION**

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. The Human Rights Education Youth Programme, initiated in the year 2000 to mainstream human rights education in youth work and youth policy provided many young people and youth organisations with learning opportunities through training courses, study sessions, seminars and educational resources.

Compass, the manual for human rights education with young people, originally published in 2002, played a central role in democratising and popularising human rights education. The success of the approaches and methodologies of Compass inspired other similar manuals such as Compasito, Bookmarks, Mirrors and Gender Matters. More than the experiential methodologies or participant-centredness of the manuals, their strategic value is making human rights education progressively known, embraced and accepted as a necessary component in strategies and programmes for youth empowerment and participation.

The acquired experience and expertise of the youth sector contributed to the adoption of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education (EDC/HRE Charter).

With the adoption of the Charter in 2010, emphasis was given to the role of the 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 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<sup>1</sup>. The Charter is used by the youth organisations and other NGOs in their human rights education practice and has a potential to become an important tool in advocacy for human rights education in both formal and non-formal education. The involvement of youth and other non-governmental organisations in the review of the implementation of the Charter has significantly contributed to a shared responsibility between governmental and non-governmental stakeholders in making sure that the Charter is known, applied and used in both the formal and non-formal education actors in member states. The Conference on the Future of Citizenship and Human Rights Education in Europe held in Strasbourg on 20-22 June 2017 reaffirmed

“education for democratic citizenship and human rights education as an integral part of the right to education;”

and called for an increased

“visibility of the Charter amongst all current and potential stakeholders, including examples of how it can be implemented, through awareness-raising, advocacy, relevant policy measures, capacity building and other targeted initiatives<sup>2</sup>.”

Alongside capacity-building, advocacy for human rights education is thus increasingly understood as necessary in order to uphold and promote the right to human rights education. Advocacy should contribute to a shared understanding of the definition, contents and functions of human rights education and to a better implementation of the Charter.

The Council of Europe Youth Sector Strategy 2030 confirms this approach by including among its priorities:

“increasing capacity building and resources for youth organisations and other relevant stakeholders to provide human rights education and advocate access to rights;”

The Youth for Democracy programme of the Council of Europe prioritised responses to this need under the expected result “Young people and youth organisations have been supported in accessing their rights and in advocating education for human rights and democracy”. Among them, the programme of study sessions and of Compass national training courses on human rights education play a central role in capacity building and expanding the communities of practitioners of HRE through non-formal education and youth work. In addition to this, a manual on advocacy for human rights education is currently under

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<sup>1</sup> The Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education is available at: [http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/education/edc/Charter/Charter\\_EN.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/education/edc/Charter/Charter_EN.asp)

<sup>2</sup> <http://rm.coe.int/declaration-key-actions-and-expected-outcomes-on-education-for-democra/1680734485>

preparation. Competences for advocacy is one of the competences addressed in the ongoing Training course for trainers in human rights education.

The United Nations World Programme for Human Rights Education is dedicated to youth for the period 2020-2024. This provides an important momentum to highlight the role of young people as agents and beneficiaries of human rights education.

The value of Competences in advocacy for human rights education go beyond the strict area of the right to human rights education and are useful in other areas of youth work and policy such as:

- Access to social rights, the right to health, as in the Enter! Recommendation on Access of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods to social rights
- Awareness of and removal of barriers to youth civil society
- Young people's access to rights, notably violations of the right to equality and non-discrimination
- Gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence
- Human rights-based youth policy and youth work.

## **E-LEARNING FOR ADVOCAY FOR HRE**

To reinforce the capacity of young people to advocate for human rights education in 2020, the Council of Europe Youth Department, in cooperation with Human Rights Education Youth Network (HREYN), intended to run a study session titled AHRE - Advocates for Human Rights Education. This session was scheduled for April 2020 at the European Youth Centre Budapest and had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As an immediate reply to the situation and a way to mitigate the consequences of this cancellation, the Youth Department is offering an online course on Advocacy for Human Rights Education with young people. The course will be facilitated and delivered in the Moodle e-learning platform of the youth sector of the Council of Europe.

## **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The e-learning course will develop competences of learners in advocating for human rights education with and by young people at local and national level based on the following objectives:

1. To strengthen the conceptual understanding of the right to human rights education and its role in non-formal education and youth work to explore the role of international human rights education instruments in national advocacy projects for HRE with young people
2. To motivate and enhance the skills of participants in understanding advocacy and applying it to their own organisational and institutional environments

3. To develop knowledge and capacity to design and implement targeted advocacy strategies or projects for human rights education notably in the education, youth policy/work and human rights fields;

## **COURSE CONTENTS**

### **Module 1 (29/06 - 09/07/2020)**

#### **Introduction to Human Rights Education and the work of the Council of Europe**

- ABOUT: Human Right Education as a human right. Introduction to the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights
- THROUGH: Introduction to methodology and ways to do Human Rights Education
- FOR: Using Human Rights Education to prevent human rights violations

#### **Competences addressed:**

- Understanding of human rights education (HRE) and its role and importance in creating a culture of human rights
- Knowledge of key international actors in the field of HRE
- Knowledge of standards, contents and approaches in HRE through international instruments of the Council of Europe and the United Nations
- Knowledge of the Council of Europe and its work in the area of human rights education.
- Skills to map human rights education on the national/local level: analysing actors, policies, programs in own context

### **Module 2 (10/07-19/07/2020)**

#### **Introduction to (youth) advocacy**

- ABOUT: What is advocacy? Exploring main steps and forms.
- THROUGH: applying Human Rights based approaches to (youth) advocacy, roles and tasks of rights holders and duty bearers
- FOR: Why, how and what to advocate for?

#### **Competences addressed:**

- Knowledge on Human rights-based approach, and its implementation in advocacy
- Understanding of the concept of advocacy
- Skills to identify essential elements for successful advocacy campaign
- Skills to plan and develop advocacy actions for human rights education

### **Module 3 (20/07-29/07/2020)**

### **Looking into practical examples on advocacy.**

- ABOUT: Study cases of successful examples
- THROUGH: Developing practical plans for advocacy of furthering human rights education in the national context on the basis of the EDC/HRE Charter
- FOR: Sharing the first steps

### **Competences addressed:**

- Skills to plan and develop advocacy actions for human rights education
- Openness to network and cooperate with other people and institutions to advocate for HRE

The course is designed for 4 weeks (each module lasts around 10 days) and requires intensive involvement from participants side, including active communication on the platform, contributing to the common discussions, participating in webinars and online meetings, submitting assignments timely. Each module will consist of one online unit based on Moodle, one webinar and one practical task.

The course will be facilitated and run on the e-learning platform of the Youth Department which is based on Moodle (<https://e-learning4youth.coe.int/>).

### **PARTICIPANTS PROFILE**

The course is open for participants who correspond to one of the following profiles:

- Human rights educators coming from non-formal and formal fields of education
- Youth leaders and members of youth organisations
- Human rights activists, including youth leaders, community leaders and volunteers
- Young political leaders
- Official from the public authorities responsible for youth affairs
- Youth workers and NGO activists
- Other stakeholders interested in advocacy for HRE.

All participants should:

- Be interested in understanding advocacy for human rights education and planning to be active in this area – taking action to advocate for human rights education
- Be able to communicate in English
- Be residents in one of the Council of Europe Member States and countries of the Cultural Convention
- Have access to the Internet and be ready to allocate at least 2-3 hours per week for taking part in the course and fulfilling its practical assignments.

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. Participation in the meeting is free of charge.

**REGISTRATION PROCEDURE:**

All those interested in taking part in the online course should register online:

<https://youthapplications.coe.int/Application-forms>

**Deadline: 25 June 2020 13:00 PM (CET)**