

News 2014

Continuation of the World Forum for Democracy

(Strasbourg, 18 December 2014)

The World Forum for Democracy 2014 has been anything but a one-stop event for the 217 young participants coming from all over the world. Using their closed [Facebook group](#) as a platform they continue to actively communicate with each other and discuss the latest developments related to democracy and human rights at their localities. They exchange ideas and motivate one another to keep being proactive actors of civil society and responsible citizens.

This is the same platform that they used to express their impression to the WFD 2104 experience:

"Hi guys! I am impressed by you and by that week that we spent together. The participation on the conference has strengthened my faith in democracy and cultural diversity which I would like to promote in my environment" *László Szerencsés, Hungary*

"Hello guys, you're such an amazing team. One man said, "if you want to go far, go alone but if you want to have a meaningful journey go with someone, I am going to keep you always in my heart so that we move together." *Dennis David, [Uganda](#)*

"My most amazing fellows for all times, I feel how much World Forum for Democracy 2014 has changed me for the better, how much I've learned from You, how many new (things) I've opened for myself cause You'd showed. *Yuliia Mativienko, Ukraine*

"I completely had an amazing time with you guys. Definitely you are all unique, wonderful and special. Looking forward to keep in touch and work again together in the future" *Marsida Bandilli, Albania*

In addition to the mainstream news coverage of the World Forum for Democracy 2014, several participants shared their personal experience from the event with their local media. Some of them even prepared actions during the Forum related to local causes for that purpose. Like Monika Khangenbam from India who created an [endorsement campaign](#), on the spot, with the help of several participants, on the struggle against Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958 and discrimination in Manipur, India.

Gianfranco Guerra Padilla prepared an article for the newspaper of his University *Escuela de Relaciones Internacionales y Gobierno – UTP*, Lima, Peru, to describe the experience, characterising the event as a "unique experience that marked him for a lifetime as a student and as a person".

For their experience and contribution to the Forum, Kenan Hadzihasanovic and Haris Selmanovic students from Bosnia and Herzegovina, were [interviewed by a local TV station](#) (RTV7) while an article was written at a local [news portal](#).

Several of the young participants reported back to their organisations about their experience at the Forum. Firas Torkhani coming from the Plan BE organisation in Tunisia, an innovative concept organising debates, wrote an [article](#) going through the entire process, from the recruitment and the 3-month online preparation phase, till the days of the WFD itself and explains the added value for his life.

Moses Machipisa representing the organisation Global Leaders Network from Harare, Zimbabwe, a youth-led initiative about development, leadership and community engagement, [gave his perspective](#) on how he envisages his experience of working together in harmony and tolerance for democracy, with so many different people, for the future of African politics.

Finally, Angelos Parmatzias from Citizens in Power organisation in Nicosia, Cyprus prepared a [report](#) for his organisation where he admits that even though after being involved in democratic dialogues he ended-up having more questions than answers, he nevertheless felt strongly that young people have the strength to revitalise democracy.

Programming Committee meeting in Budapest

Strasbourg, 12 December 2014

The Programming Committee on Youth held its 32nd meeting at the European Youth Centre in Budapest on 4 and 5 December 2014. Its main tasks were to:

- monitor the implementation of the 2014 programme of the Council of Europe's youth sector
- evaluate the activities supported by the European Youth Foundation
- adopt the 2015 programme of the youth sector
- approve the study sessions to be held in cooperation with the EYCs in 2015
- approve the grants to be awarded by the European Youth Foundation in 2015

19 grants were awarded for international activities, representing a total of € 301,000.

22 annual work plans were approved, representing a total of € 822,500.

The Committee also approved the first pilot activity grants for 2015.

More details about the grants awarded can be found on the Grants page (Supported projects).

EYF visits the international activity of the European Law Students Association (ELSA)



Strasbourg, 12 December 2014

The last EYF visit of the year was in Zagreb, Croatia to the international conference “MiD IFP Conference: Freedom of Expression” organised by ELSA that took place on 25-29 November.

Eva Lehmann, EYF staff member, joined the organisers and the 68 participants (law students from all over Europe) in this activity that aimed at opening a platform for discussion on the challenges that concern freedom of speech, as the importance of the media grows.

The conference is part of the three year International Focus Programme that ELSA is running on the theme of Media Law. Their

focus was initiated with a conference on No Hate Speech Online in Oslo, Norway, in 2013 also supported by the EYF. The results of this were shared with the participants at the beginning of the Zagreb conference.

Throughout the meeting, lectures were held from Croatian and UK representatives giving input on the topic of freedom of expression from their different angles of expertise, namely journalistic, psychological, academic and legal; all of which led to stimulating, heated and interesting discussions. Case studies and simulations on actual case laws in this field were held, and the national TV station of Croatia was visited.

During the programme, participants also shared experiences from their own countries. Actual incidents of freedom violation but also of freedom misuse were discussed openly and possible solutions were suggested. All these contributions will be combined in the form of a Memorandum on Freedom of Expression to be disseminated throughout the network of ELSA after the event.

Call for coordinator and trainer



Strasbourg, 28 November 2014

EYF (Re)generation: from 18 to 20 February 2015, the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe is organising a meeting with representatives of local/national youth NGOs experienced in running youth projects.

This training is the third of its kind and builds on the previous experiences

gained during the EYF Reloaded seminar in 2013 and EYF (R)evolution in 2014. The 2015 seminar will focus on the grant category of pilot activities and creating a common understanding of what a pilot activity supported by the EYF is.

The EYF is looking for 1 coordinator and 1 trainer from the youth sector to be involved in the EYF (Re)generation seminar.

If you are interested in this opportunity and you have a good knowledge of the work implemented by the youth sector of the Council of Europe as well as the role of the EYF within this framework – this invitation is for you.

In this case please read carefully the call including the profile of the coordinator as well as the trainer. If you think you are the right person for one of the two alternatives, please fill in the application form, create a short video (max 1.5 minutes) introducing yourself and what you would like the EYF to know about you that is not in the application form (see instructions) and send everything with a CV to eyf@coe.int by 14 December 2014 at the latest.

[\(Re\)generation Call for coordinator/trainer](#)

[\(Re\)generation Application form coordinator/trainer](#)

Programming Committee meeting



Programming Committee on Youth Composition



Foundation in 2015

Strasbourg, 28 November 2014

The Programming Committee on Youth will hold its 33rd meeting at the European Youth Centre in Budapest on 4 and 5 December 2014. Its main tasks are to:

- monitor the implementation of the 2014 programme of the Council of Europe's youth sector
- evaluate the activities supported by the European Youth Foundation
- adopt the 2015 programme of the youth sector
- approve the study sessions to be held in cooperation with the EYCs in 2015
- approve the grants to be awarded by the European Youth

43 grant applications for international activities and 39 for annual work plans were submitted to the EYF at the 1 October deadline.

The applicant NGOs will be informed of the decisions during the second week of December.

WFD 2014 - Can youth revitalise Democracy?



Strasbourg, 28 November 2014

The 217 youngsters from 100 different countries around the world, invited to participate by the European Youth Foundation, replied vibrantly "YES"!

Amazing things happened during the third edition of the World Forum for Democracy. With the motto "Rethinking democracy for a better future" and the blue hat as their symbol, the young actors of democracy definitely stirred things up in Strasbourg.

They actively contributed to the Labs' debates, produced 4 different applicable prototypes of ideal democracy, which they presented at the respective events during the Forum (Unconferences), and presented a soulful theatre performance at the closing ceremony.

They expressed their dreams and fears about democracy through an art installation-performance and finally they created a video conveying the message to "let democracy take off". (Find the video here: <http://vimeo.com/111406975>)

The Youth Group went through a dynamic online preparation phase where they discussed and exchanged point of views and attitudes on democracy and the role of youth, and they developed knowledge and skills through online debates and training sessions, with the aim of transforming their creative ideas into visible and efficient actions during the Forum, as well as in their local context afterwards.

Once in Strasbourg, they completed the preparations and finalised the actions planned but they also developed several intervention initiatives on the spot by inspiring and engaging one another in different democracy related issues from around the world. A group of participants was also given the opportunity to have a 30 minute discussion with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to express their views on youth and democracy.

Throughout the first week of November, their creativity and commitment were omnipresent and contagious and they brought great amounts of positive vibes at the European Youth Foundation and to the Council of Europe. This edition of WFD was definitely revitalised by youth!

It's over! WFD 2014



217 young people from 100 countries came to Strasbourg with the support of the EYF and the Conference of INGOs to take part in the 3rd World Forum for Democracy, "From participation to influence: can youth revitalise democracy?" (3-5 November). They had two and a half intensive days of preparation at the European Youth Centre, filled with creative workshops, discussions and simulations. A global action was started: Shaking democracy - <http://on.fb.me/1x95ubE>

During the World Forum itself, participants were involved in discussions in 21 labs on 4 focus themes: Influencing minds,

Influencing Decision-making, Influencing policies, Influencing institutions. They took part in 6 unconferences, which were participant-driven workshops with an agenda created by the attendees on an online platform before the meeting (1 unconference was initiated by the Council of Europe's youth sector on co-management).

They presented 4 different prototypes of an ideal democracy to all participants, politicians, media, activists etc.

A journalist group was set up to report live to the outside world on what was happening at the WFD through the "WFD Youth Blog" - <http://on.fb.me/10zfW0w>

More information and photos can be found on the WFD website: <http://bit.ly/1uAz6An>

Keep up with EYF during October - December



Strasbourg, 15 October 2014

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) would like to wish a warm welcome to the **newly appointed Head of the Youth Department, Antje Rothemund.**

The EYF team has been involved in developing and planning various **cooperation projects** to be implemented with other Council of Europe departments during October and the months to come.

Have a look below at our busy schedule!

- [**Pestalozzi Programme – EYF cooperation**](#)

8 – 10 October, Koksijde, Belgium

Theme: "Respect – Responsible Attitudes and Behaviour in the Online Social Space" (Module B)

- [**27th session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities**](#)

14 – 16 October, Strasbourg, France

Theme: "Empowering youth: a shared responsibility for cities and regions"

36 young people jointly selected and financed by the Congress and the EYF, will join the Congress delegations in their work during the session, notably a debate on youth participation at local and regional level.

- [**World Forum for Democracy 2014 Edition**](#)

3-5 November, Strasbourg, France

Theme: "From participation to influence: can youth revitalise democracy?"

EYF is highly involved in the Forum, from participant selection (230 young participants from all over the world), logistics, organisation of labs and unconferences topics, online platform work, presentation of new prototypes of democracy(ies) to youth visibility item design (hats, t-shirts etc.) and free time programme ideas! Every effort is being put in to make this event a success story.

- [**Joint Council on youth meeting**](#)

12-14 November, Strasbourg, France

Main aim: to work on the 2016 - 2017 priorities of the youth sector.

The Foundation team is also continuing with usual work commitments and demands:

- **1 October EYF Deadline**

The EYF team is evaluating the applications received on the last deadline of the year and preparing the recommendations to be given to the Programming Committee for each application. 39 work plan applications and 46 international activity applications were submitted.

The [unique approach of the Foundation](#) means that applications will be seen by 3 different people, each one of them looking at different aspects. If necessary (in order to ask for clarifications, improve the quality of the application or simply make a suggestion) one of the staff members will get in touch directly through the online system of EYF, with the NGO concerned/person in charge of the project. The Programming Committee will take the final decision.

- **Programming Committee meeting December (2 annual meetings)**

4 – 5 December, Budapest, Hungary

The EYF is Secretariat to the Programming Committee, preparing all meeting documents, taking note of the Committee's comments, organising logistics and other demands.

- **Pilot Activity applications and decision**

All year round – no fixed deadline

The EYF team is evaluating applications, giving recommendations and discussing online with Programming Committee members. NGOs will be informed as soon as possible.

- **Other**

EYF has received a voluntary contribution from Finland (€ 15,000) to support the work of youth NGOs on capacity building and conflict transformation in Ukraine in 2014 - 2015.

Youth delegates to take part in the 27th Session of the Congress



Strasbourg, 9 October 2014

[The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe](#) has decided to devote a large part of its 27th session to the theme "**Empowering youth: a shared responsibility for cities and regions**" (14 to 16 October 2014).

By inviting a number of young people to take part actively in its 27th session, the Congress, in close cooperation with the **European Youth Foundation (EYF)**, aims to create a space for dialogue between the youth delegates and local and regional elected

representatives. One young person will join each of the 47 delegations to participate in the Congress' work and debates.

The youth participation and the programme are being jointly financed by the Congress and the European Youth Foundation.

Reminder!! Watch the live webcast of the Youth Debate and send your questions and comments via #youthsession2014. Your questions will be shown in the hemicycle, at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France.

Call for the "Young European of the Year 2015"

Strasbourg, 2 October 2014

The Schwarzkopf Foundation is looking for the **"Young European of the Year 2015"!!**

Do you know a young person between 18 and 26, who showed an **exemplary dedication working in an honorary capacity towards the understanding between peoples and/or European integration?**



The sum donated for the **prize is € 5.000**. This amount is intended to finance a six-month practical traineeship with a Member of the European Parliament or another European institution. It is also possible to use the sum to finance a project which promotes European integration.

Have a look at the official call and nomination form on the **Schwarzkopf Foundation website** [here](#).

Want to nominate someone? Hurry up... the deadline for submissions is **20 October 2014!**

EYF team training in non-formal education and project management

EYF team in TRAINING!

- transferring acquired knowledge into daily work.

In short: from theory to practice, the EYF team went through **“experiential leaning”**, developed its decision making processes by using the **“6 thinking hats”** method, had an in-depth look and discussion about the **project management cycle** and linked it to **EYF application and reporting processes**.

The main aims of the 3-day workshop have been achieved and moreover, as a result of the training, the team expects to be able to provide its stakeholders with more and better support in their activities.

The EYF would like to thank the two trainers for their energy, passion and sharing their knowledge and skills; as well as our human resources colleagues for making this training possible.

Strasbourg, 1 October 2014

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) team just finished a 3-day workshop (24-26 September) on project management and non-formal education (NFE). The training took place at the European Youth Centre Strasbourg (EYCS) and was attended by entire team.

The main aims of the training can be summed up as:

- developing new project management skills;
- exploring and learning new methods of non-formal education (NFE);

1 October EYF deadline: reminders and tips

1 OCTOBER DEADLINE!

Strasbourg, 8 September 2014

The 1 October deadline is fast approaching. To help you prepare, we developed this checklist!

WHAT CAN YOU APPLY FOR?

- ✓ International activity
- ✓ Work plan
- ✓ One-off Structural grant

For more information on grants available: <http://bit.ly/1xfxdL3> and deadlines <http://bit.ly/1psNMca>

WHO CAN APPLY?

- ✓ International NGOs
- ✓ International network of NGOs
- ✓ Regional network of NGOs
- ✓ National NGOs

For more information and criteria here: <http://bit.ly/1rwUVNY>

WHICH COUNTRIES?

- ✓ Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania,

Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Holy See.

HOW TO PREPARE in ADVANCE?

- ✓ Download, read, draft your applications using the templates and guidelines available <http://bit.ly/1hg9MV0>

HOW TO APPLY/REGSITER?

- Go to GRANTS section of website and have a look at:
 - How to apply <http://bit.ly/Wh7Mb2>
 - NEW NGO registration <http://bit.ly/WfT3g0>
- GO TO online system where you have to register and/or submit your application: <https://fej.coe.int/>

OTHER CRITERIA?

- ✓ Applications must fall in the Council of Europe priorities for 2014-2015 Have a look at <http://bit.ly/1sEFOX>
- ✓ Partner organisations should: be involved in the preparation, implementation and follow up of activities. Sending participants is not sufficient. Ideally, they should also be part of the organising team, however this is not mandatory. Partnership should be based on common values, interest in theme etc.
- ✓ NO new NGO registrations for this deadline will be processed as from 15 September. Evaluation of new NGO registrations will continue after the deadline.

Call for applications: activity to be held in cooperation with the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg or Budapest



Strasbourg, 8 September 2014

Deadline 1 October 2014!!

- ▶ [Application form sessions 2015](#)
- ▶ [Criteria for activities in cooperation with EYCs](#)
- ▶ [Letter Call for sessions](#)

EYF visits 4 activities in July - August



Strasbourg, 2 September 2014

During the July and August summer months the EYF travelled throughout Europe ([Coe Member states](#)) to visit various EYF supported activities.

Our main aims for these visits can be summed up as: establishing connexions with youth NGOs, monitoring supported projects, giving feedback to the Programming Committee (who approves of our visits in advance), increasing our visibility and that of the Council of Europe and generally, getting to know you.

July

The first visit made was to the **European Union of the Deaf Youth (EUDY)**, in Primorsko (Bulgaria). The activity "Youth Camp (4)" took place from 4 to 13 July 2014 and was part of the work plan "Reaching the Deaf Youth Community".

The “Youth Camp (4)” included some 60 young people from 20 countries. Participants shared information on their circumstances, as well as, challenges they face in their home countries. They learned about common obstacles in different cultural contexts and searched together for possible solutions.

Through this activity Don Bosco aimed to raise awareness about migration, especially in relation to human rights and intercultural learning areas. The 37 participants explored and experienced different elements of migration via non-formal approaches.

The last visit of the summer was to Ireland and included seeing 2 activities implemented in parallel by the **European Peer Training Organisation (EPTO)**. The trainings "Quality peer training for well-being" and "Quality peer training against discrimination" took place in Wexford, 25 – 29 August.

The labyrinth theatre made participants explore well-being and risk situations while blindfolded. Participants had to use their other senses to get out of the labyrinth. The forum theatre method was used in the "Quality peer training against discrimination". Participants simulated through theatre, real life scenarios, specifically struggles, trying to identify possible solutions.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE GENDER EQUALITY STRATEGY 2014-2017

The EYF is contributing to the Council of Europe's Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017 (www.coe.int/equality) by promoting the integration of a **gender perspective in pilot activities** run by youth NGOs with the support of the EYF.

reinvent the wheel, we would like to ask you to **share** any materials, good practices or tools with the EYF.

Guide to application and report phase and status



If you have applied to the EYF, you would have noticed that your application will go through various phases and statuses.

DISCUSSION A similar situation presents itself once your activity has been awarded a grant and while you are filling in your application report. From “received” to “saved” and “closed” there are only a few steps... but how to get there?

Have a look at the ["APPLICATION PROCESS"](#) document. It takes you through all the possible statuses of applications, granted activities and reports.

Last pilot activity deadline of the year 2014



Strasbourg, 6 August 2014

Unlike the other grant types, applications for pilot activities do not have a specific deadline. Pilot activity applications must however be submitted at least **three months before the beginning** of the activity. The decisions on application are then usually taken by the Programming Committee on Youth every 4-6 weeks.

The last batch of applications for pilot activities starting before the end of 2014 will be given to the Programming Committee at the beginning of October. This means that **applications must be**

received before the 15th of September. Applications received **after the 15th of September should concern projects starting in 2015**.

You are reminded that urgent priority is still given to pilot activities on capacity building and conflict transformation developed by **Ukrainian NGOs and European NGOs wishing to co-operate** with Ukrainian NGOs.

Submit your application in good time before the start of the project to allow for sufficient time for communication and assessment!!

Latest updates on Financial Reports to be submitted to EYF



Strasbourg, 5 August 2014

To help you present a full report and get the outstanding 20% of the grant as quickly as possible after the end of your activity, we developed templates and guideline documents. (See: [Resources/Guidelines and Templates](#))

The [“Guidelines for financial reporting for Pilot Activities, International Activities and Work Plans”](#) document has been recently updated.

If you have been awarded an EYF grant, keep this in mind when reporting back to us:

- All reports received as from **1 September 2014 must follow the guidelines** – if not, the report will be sent back. Make sure you read with attention the 2-page document!
- **Salaries are not accepted** unless paid by another proven source of funding. While avoiding the professionalization of the youth sector and in agreement with the EYF spirit, no salaries will be covered by EYF grants. The EYF will however cover fees related to the activity. Remember that with the exception of structural grants, EYF support is destined to funding activities and not structures!
- All copies of **bills and invoices must be stamped and signed** by the legal representative of the NGO in order to be accepted as proof of expenditure. This decision reinforces the zero tolerance policy to fraud ([more on fraud](#)).

Read the full guidelines document [HERE](#) or go to [Grants/How to report](#) section.

For any questions or if in doubt, get in touch with us via eyf@coe.int

Looking for 2 trainers from the Youth sector

Strasbourg, 21 August 2014

The European Youth Foundation is on the lookout for 2 experienced and motivated trainers for **a 3-day workshop** with the EYF team!!!

The main aims: to develop new project management and non-formal education skills (first 2 days) and to transfer recently acquired knowledge into the daily work of the EYF (last day).

CALL FOR TRAINERS!

The workshop will take place at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg during the week of **22 – 28 September 2014**; the exact dates are yet to be confirmed.

For more information on the role, responsibility and competencies required from trainers see [“CALL for trainers”](#).

If you wish to apply, please send your CV and duly filled [“Application form”](#) to eyf@coe.int **by 31 August 2014** at the latest.

Activity and Financial Reports UPDATED



form.

A well-prepared and informative interim report = quick payment of the second instalment of the grant!

Strasbourg, 3 July 2014

The EYF has received its first Work Plan interim reports!

After discussing with the organisations concerned, we realised that what we ask for in the interim report needs further explanation, so we have modified some of the instructions in the User Guide (see revised version [HERE](#)).

Please read this guide before preparing your report and follow the help buttons and additional guidance available in the online report

Programming Committee decisions for 2015



Strasbourg, 17 June 2014

The Programming Committee (PC) on Youth met in Strasbourg from 12th to 13th June. This was the first meeting of the year; the second annual meeting will be taking place in Budapest from 4th to 5th December.

The meeting gathered the **newly elected PC members for the 2014 – 2015 period**, who decided the 2015 Draft Programme of activities in the European Youth Centres (Strasbourg and Budapest) and member states.

One of the PC's responsibilities concerns decisions on EYF grant applications and study sessions taking place in the European Youth Centres.

- ▶ **International activities:** out of 26 applications submitted to the European Youth Foundation (deadline 1 April 2014), 9 applications were granted for a total amount of € 152 000.
- ▶ **Work Plans:** out of 14 applications submitted to the European Youth Foundation (deadline 1 April 2014), 7 were granted for a total amount of € 327 800
- ▶ **Study sessions:** out of 22 applications submitted to the European Youth Centres, 13 study sessions were included in the programme of the EYCs for the first half of 2015.

Faithful to its 2-way communication and transparency approach, as soon as the decisions were taken by the PC, the **EYF informed applicant organisations of the outcome**.

If you missed out on the EYF 1 April deadline, you can still apply 1 October 2014 for the following grant types: international activity, work plan and one-off structural grants!

Don't forget that if you are an eligible NGO, you can apply for pilot activities all throughout the year!!

The European Youth Forum launches survey into multiple discrimination against young people



Strasbourg, 16 June 2014

Why: the Youth Forum aims to tackle all forms of discrimination that young Europeans experience.

What: In order to develop relevant policies and plan more consistent advocacy actions to lobby against discrimination, it has launched a **survey** to collect information about discrimination at European and national levels. More info [here](#).

Who: anyone aged between 18 and 35 years old, living in one of the

member countries of the Council of Europe (See member countries [here](#).)

How: [take the survey on multiple discrimination!](#)

Call for participants WFD2014: spread the word!



Strasbourg, 27 May 2014

The 3rd edition of the World Forum for Democracy **“From participation to influence: can youth revitalise democracy?”** will take place in Strasbourg, 3 – 5 November 2014.

Why should you participate? Why will other young people join the Forum?

Watch video:

Sorry, this video is private.

In this edition of the World Forum, we wish to invite young people to make concrete proposals for "real democracy".

We want young people to get away from problems, limitations and frustrations related to dysfunctional democratic systems and to take a solution-oriented approach.

We want participants to DREAM DEMOCRACY, to reinvent new forms of democratic societies, to bring in their ideas, experiences and visions in order to develop prototypes for new democracies.

300 young participants will be selected by the **European Youth Foundation** in order to ensure a strong youth dimension during the Forum.

For more information see: [“CALL for PARTICIPANTS”](#)

All candidates must apply in 2 parts:

- > **PART 1.** An online application form should be completed via this link: <http://youthapplications.coe.int/>
- > **PART 2.** A short 1 minute video should be posted on YouTube, with the link attached to the online application form ([see instructions](#)).

All selected participants should arrive on Friday 31st October and depart on Thursday 6th November.

The application form must be submitted on-line until Sunday 22nd June 2014 (midnight CET).

Call for trainers WFD2014



Strasbourg, 27 May 2014

The 3rd edition of the World Forum for Democracy **“From participation to influence: can youth revitalise democracy?”** will take place in Strasbourg, 3 – 5 November 2014.

In this edition of the World Forum, we wish to invite young people to make concrete proposals for "real democracy". The specificity of this activity, in comparison with other Council of Europe Youth Department activities, is that non-formal approaches will be used in a very formal setting. 300 young participants will be selected by the

European Youth Foundation (EYF) in order to ensure a strong youth dimension and presence during the Forum.

The EYF is looking for **8 trainers from the Youth Sector**. The trainers will be involved in the preparation of the World Forum between July and October 2014 through on-line learning, as well as during the World Forum for Democracy preparation and event from 30 October (arrival) to 7th November 2014 (departure).

Roles and responsibilities of trainers:

- To support the coordinators in the development, the preparation and the implementation of the WFD;
- To facilitate the online preparation platform for participants (July to October);
- To facilitate training sessions during the youth meeting from 31st October to 3rd November in the European Youth Centre;
- To accompany participants in the preparation of the WFD and during the WFD (3rd-5th November) in their different activities;
- To facilitate debriefing and evaluation.

For more information see: [“CALL for trainers and Expression of Interest”](#)

Should you be interested in being part of this event, please fill in the [“Expression of interest”](#) and return it along with your CV, to: eyf@coe.int by **Sunday 15th June** at the latest.

EYF visits pilot activity



Strasbourg, 26 May 2014

Eva Lehmann, EYF staff member, travelled to Kukes (Albania) and met with the Youth in Free Initiative NGO. Eva joined the organisers and participants in the activity "Training Course: Empowering Youth Activism and Volunteerism" taking place from 19th to 23rd May 2014.

The activity aimed to raise awareness and develop skills in activism and participation, encouraging young people to be more active in their local community. As part of the activity, participants were invited to meet with the Mayor and the Head of the Regional

Council, which lead to a one day initiative of cleaning the local lake and surrounding area.

This training course was supported by the European Youth Foundation and given a pilot activity grant.

TO RECAP: a pilot activity is an “intervention”, an activity addressing a contextual societal challenge affecting young people at local level. In this case, young people have realised that one of their main concerns and challenges at a local level is pollution, along with the lack of means by local authorities to deal with this situation. The cleaning up of the surrounding area of the lake is a first step

Call for youth participants extended to 4 June due to elections

27TH SESSION – 27ÈME SESSION (OCT. 2014)

THEME – Empowering Youth: a shared responsibility for cities and regions
THÈME – La place des jeunes dans la société : une responsabilité partagée des villes et régions

Financed by the European Youth Foundation and The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities
financée par le Fonds Européen pour la Jeunesse et Le Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux



Strasbourg, 22 May 2014

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe has decided to devote a large part of its 27th session, 14 to 16 October 2014, to the theme **"Empowering youth: a shared responsibility for cities and regions"**.

By inviting a number of young people to take part actively in its **27th session**, the Congress, in close co-operation with the Council of Europe Youth Department and the European Youth Foundation (EYF), aims to create a space for dialogue between the youth

delegates and local and regional elected representatives.

The youth delegates, one per national delegation, should meet the following **criteria**:

- ▶ be **open, committed and motivated** to develop and strengthen dialogue between young people and elected representatives;
- ▶ be between **16 and 30 years old**;
- ▶ have been **resident in one of the Council of Europe member states** for a minimum of five years;
- ▶ be a **member** of a local or regional youth council or parliament, or a local or regional elected representative, or a representative of a youth NGO, or a youth-led structure;
- ▶ be available and motivated to **engage in the whole of the activity** from Monday 13 October to Thursday 16 October at 17.30;
- ▶ have an **interest in actively participating** in policy making at local and or regional levels;
- ▶ be **able to multiply** the information obtained during the session at home;
- ▶ **speak one of the languages** interpreted during the session (English, French, German, Italian, Russian).

Applicants are invited to submit **a short video**, via YouTube, of no more than 45 seconds, to support their **application**. The link to the video should be sent together with the application.

More information below:

- > [Call for APPLICATIONS](#)
- > [APPLICATION](#)

If you are interested in applying, send your complete application by **4 June 2014** to youthsession2014@coe.int

Their participation and the programme are being jointly financed by the Congress, the European Youth Foundation and the Youth Department.

EYF visits international activity



Strasbourg, 20 May 2014

The EYF visited the **"Birth of Day: Gaining Visibility and Active Participation"** activity carried out by African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe (A.D.Y.N.E) from 14th to 17th May, in Portugal.

The activity prepared participants for the 3rd October 2014 action day "International African Diaspora Day" (I.D.A.D).

The 16 participants, youth workers and media experts, focused on developing a communication strategy as well as possible tactics to

be used ahead of the I.D.A.D.

Videos and media strategies were produced. Non-formal education methods included the theatre of the oppressed.

A field visit to the Portuguese RTP (Radio and Television Portugal) gave participants the opportunity to see behind the scenes, be in the TV studio and understand how producers and directors work.

The Joint Council on Youth encourages support for Ukrainian youth



Strasbourg, 23 May 2014.

At its 30th meeting, 24-26 March 2014, the **Joint Council on Youth** expressed its concerns about the gravity of the current situation in Ukraine, notably for young people and civil society. It underlined the necessity to *react as quickly as possible* to urgent challenges young people are facing, notably through the grants of the European Youth Foundation (EYF).

The Joint Council on Youth decided that **urgent priority** should be given to pilot activities **on capacity building and conflict**

transformation developed by **Ukrainian** NGOs, or **European** NGOs wishing to co-operate with Ukrainian NGOs on these two issues.

This decision is a fast reaction to **immediate needs** and a good example of the important role that young people can play at the Council of Europe, where they are directly involved in the decision making process with the governments.

The general pilot activity rules (see <https://www.coe.int/en/web/european-youth-foundation/pilot-activities>) apply to this **special 2014 Ukraine priority**, i.e. the proposed activity shall be:

- an "intervention", i.e. an activity that addresses a contextual societal challenge affecting young people at local level.
- an activity that has clear links to and an impact on the local context.
- developed at local, regional or national level (i.e. international NGOs cannot apply)

The maximum grant which can be awarded by the EYF is €10.000.

If you want to submit an application, please mention clearly at the beginning of the application: SPECIAL CALL UKRAINE.

Information on how to apply see: <https://www.coe.int/web/european-youth-foundation/how-to-apply>

EYF visits activity



Strasbourg, 16 April 2014

The 1st visit of 2014 to an EYF supported project took place 11-14 April.

Eva Lehmann, EYF staff member, travelled to Sassari (Italy) and joined the Mine Vaganti NGO activity "**Gender Human Rights in Sardinia**". The 4-day activity focused on real-life everyday situations, including challenges, of young women in Sardinia.

Real cases were shared and solutions were discussed. It included 17 participants from the formal and non-formal youth sector and was held both in English and Italian. One of the aims of the project was to develop participants' competences and skills on coordinating local youth activities on gender issues.

The EYF visits have been reintroduced after a 1 year absence due to lack of time and resources.

For 2014, many more visits are being planned! **Will YOU and your NGO be one of the visited projects??? Stay tuned...**

But just so you know, the EYF's main aims relating to visits of supported projects are:

- **monitoring** the projects supported by the European Youth Foundation;
- **increasing the visibility** of the European Youth Foundation and the Council of Europe;
- **giving feedback** to the Programming Committee;
- **establishing links** with supported youth NGOs;
- **getting to know YOU**, your LIFE and your REALITY. We are here to support YOU.

Call for youth coordinator - 2014 World Forum for Democracy



Strasbourg, 11 April 2014

The Joint Council on Youth has agreed to involve the youth sector of the Council of Europe, through the European Youth Foundation (EYF), in the 2014 edition of the World Forum for Democracy.

The third edition of the World Forum for Democracy **"From participation to influence: can youth revitalise democracy?"** will take place 3-5 November 2014. [More...](#)

The Forum will:

- ✓ engage with young people and with decision-makers and opinion-formers in a reflection on the patterns of exclusion and involvement;
- ✓ explore new ways of engaging young people in re-visioning the democratic arenas of today;
- ✓ explore initiatives and structures to successfully address the reasons for youth exclusion and create conditions for real youth influence.

At this stage, the EYF is looking for **1 coordinator** from the Youth Sector.

The coordinator will be involved in the conception, the preparation, the implementation and the follow up of the Forum. 300 young participants will be selected by the EYF in order to ensure a strong youth dimension during the Forum.

- ✓ Are **YOU** an experienced trainer/coordinator in youth participation?
- ✓ Are **YOU** committed to youth?
- ✓ Are **YOU** able to work in English and French?
- ✓ Are **YOU** familiar with the work of the Council of Europe on this topic?
- ✓ Are **YOU** energetic?
- ✓ Are **YOU** the right person for this task?

If you answered **"YES"** to all these questions, than hurry and fill in the ["Expression of Interest"](#) and send it to eyf@coe.int along with your CV, by **21 April 2014** at the latest.

The Strasbourg World Forum for Democracy is an annual gathering of leaders, opinion-makers, civil society activists, representatives of business, academia, media and professional groups to debate key challenges for democracies worldwide. The insights gathered during the World Forum meetings inform the work of the Council of Europe and its numerous partners in the field of democracy and democratic governance.

EYF is on Facebook!



Strasbourg, 8 April 2014.

The European Youth Foundation is now on Facebook!! [Join us on Facebook](#) to keep up to date with our regular news!

Discover the March EYF Newsletter!

Strasbourg, 4 April 2014.

The [3rd EYF e-newsletter](#) is now available. We intend to make it a regular, monthly publication and to use it to keep you in touch with EYF news.

The EYF Newsletter

Want to know who reads your application?

HAVE A LOOK AT THE EYF YOUTUBE CHANNEL!
<http://www.youtube.com/user/EYFcoe>

You will find videos like "MESSAGE FROM STAFF", "WHAT IS A PILOT ACTIVITY" and more!



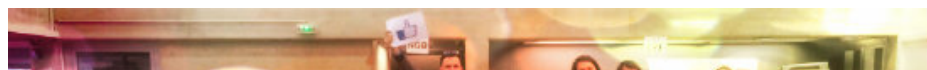
[EYF values: diversity, flexibility, respect, teamwork]

You will be able to read the 3 most important news of the month and find out what other stories were published on the EYF website.

To download and read the e-Newsletter go to Resources/EYF materials/Documentation section of the website.

If you wish to subscribe to this service and receive the e-Newsletter directly via email, please contact: eyf@coe.int or maria-diana.predosanu@coe.int

"EYF (R)evolution" seminar - it all starts with you(th)



Strasbourg, 21 March 2014.

From the 11th to 14th of March 2014, the European Youth Foundation held the **"EYF (R)Evolution" seminar**.



This is the second consecutive year that the Foundation organised such an event. The meeting built on previous experiences gained during the "EYF reloaded" seminar in 2013.

Since the beginning of 2013, the new regulations (i.e. new grant categories), online application and reporting system and EYF website

have been launched. All throughout last year, youth NGOs, as well as the EYF staff, have been getting familiar with the new framework and experiencing first-hand the implications of all these changes and developments.

The "EYF (R)Evolution" seminar focused on analysing and discussing NGOs' experience; to further establish and strengthen this new way of working together."

Here is what some of the participants had to say about the seminar:

"This activity helped me understand the whole serious work that is needed to prepare the work plan and the report. I will definitively dedicate more time for writing them."

"I am more motivated to empower our young activists who are catalysts of change especially in this time of various crises. I have also felt more understanding and solidarity with EYF as well as fellow representatives of organisations."

"I received info on how the Council of Europe and EYF work, enough for me to understand the values they stand for and promote, as well as the type of projects they are interested in supporting."

"The meeting has opened my perspective towards the work of other youth organizations and their role and impact in the field."

Some highlights:

"Full involvement of EYF staff in the meeting (quite coherent with the philosophy of it)."

"Great discussions in sessions and outside, being able to ask questions directly to the EYF secretariat, the living power point of the EYF".



Words that represent participants' experience at the EYF seminar.

EYF supported project wins Charlemagne youth prize in Romania



Strasbourg, 21 March 2014.

The seminar ***"Intercultural Dialogue - a European Adventure (IDEA)"*** organised by the European Geography Association and supported by the European Youth Foundation wins the national Charlemagne European Youth Prize in Romania! 25 other projects were competing at the Romanian national level.

The European Charlemagne Youth Prize aims to encourage on one hand, the development of a European consciousness among young people and on the other hand, participation in European integration.

The winner of the European Charlemagne Youth Prize is selected in a two-step process:

- 1st step: national juries select one national winner from each of the 28 member states.
- 2nd step: the European jury will select the winner from the 28 projects submitted by national juries by 17 April 2014.

ABOUT:

The seminar was focused around 3 questions: *'Why is intercultural dialogue important?' 'Why living together in diversity is important' and 'What is the role of youth in this?'*

WHERE:

Zagreb, CROATIA

WHEN:

10/07/2013 – 16/07/2013

WHO:

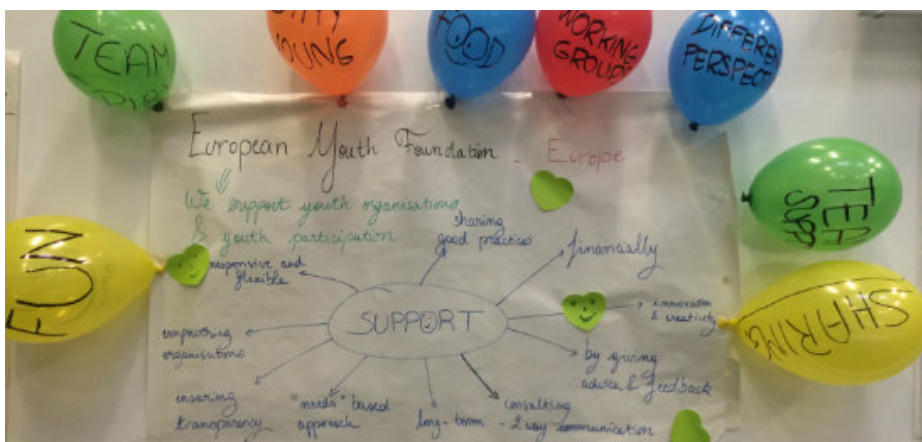
Participants from 27 local associations, 18 countries covered in total.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

Congratulations to the organising team and best of luck with the European level competition!!!

One year in the shoes of EYF

Strasbourg, 21 March 2014



During the 2013 seminar "EYF Reloaded" and this year's "EYF Revolution", the European Youth Foundation staff has presented the most important moments of the year for the Foundation through the 'living PowerPoint' methodology.

This involves some of the staff verbally describing a usual year's work at the EYF, while the rest of the team acts the tasks being mentioned, using signs and body language.

The 'living PowerPoint' has been one of the favourite methodologies of participants, these being able to understand what the EYF is

doing, how it is doing it and why it is doing it this way.

We feel that this information may be of interest also to you. Have a look below at the concise, adapted, version of the 'EYF Living PowerPoint'©.



Misleading information about EYF grants

Strasbourg, 18 March 2014

The European Youth Foundation would like to bring to your attention that misleading information regarding the EYF, its grants and deadlines, has been published on various organisations' websites.

As a general rule, please make sure that you refer back to the EYF's website for accurate and timely info.



Guidelines to fill in a Work Plan report !

WORK PLAN
GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING

PLAN DE TRAVAIL
LIGNES DIRECTRICES
POUR LE RAPPORT



Strasbourg, 7 March 2014

If you have received a work plan grant from the EYF, one of the conditions to obtain the final payment is to send us both an interim report and a final report of the activities that have taken place. In order for you to understand what we expect in both reports, we have uploaded [reporting_guidelines_for_work_plans](#) in the Resources section.

What you must keep in mind when writing your report is to remain as clear, coherent and concrete as possible. We want to understand

what you have done as well as the impact of your activity on young people.

We have tried to make these guidelines as clear as possible in order to help you with the writing of the work plan reports. However, if something is confusing or needs further development, let us know so that we can try and make it better, clearer and friendlier.

Structural grants: calculation methods

STRUCTURAL GRANT
SUBVENTION STRUCTURELLE

european youth foundation
fonds européen pour la jeunesse



Strasbourg, 5 February 2014

What is it?

Grant given by the European Youth Foundation intended for general administrative costs.

2 options:

- > **SG1 or one-off** is a one year only grant destined to help establish a European structure (non-renewable).
- > **SG2** is a grant awarded for two consecutive years, to be confirmed

after 1 year.

Who is it for?

- > **SG2** are **only** accessible to international youth NGOs (branches in at least 7 CoE member states) and international networks (comprising at least 7 member organisations), with European structures or a European Secretariat, having **previously** received support for at least 3 international activities during the previous 3 years (EYF grant or study session in the annual programme of the European Youth Centres in Strasbourg or Budapest).
- > **SG1** are **only** accessible to regional networks (present in ≥4 and not more than 6 different CoE member countries), having **previously** received support for at least 3 international activities during the previous 3 years (EYF grant or study session in the annual programme of the European Youth Centres in Strasbourg or Budapest).

How is it calculated?

Points are allocated for the fulfilment of each requirement.

Quantitative criteria

1. Previous relations with the Council of Europe youth sector [number of grants received from EYF; Category A (meetings), category B (publications) and C (administrative) - during the 3 previous years]

A maximum of **15 points can be allocated per year** (in this case for 2014 - 2015 grant: 2011, 2012 and 2013). **The maximum amount of points for this criterion is 45 points.**

- ▶ **Category A** : 3.5 points (out of maximum 7 points)
- ▶ **Category B**: 2 points (out of maximum 4 points)
- ▶ **Category C**: 4 points

For the 2016 - 2017 structural grants the point system will change due to the new grant categories.

- ▶ **Structural grant**: 5 points
- ▶ **Work plan**: 8 points
- ▶ **International activity**: 3 points (maximum 6 points if no work plan grant was received)

Grants received in 2013, 2014 and 2015 will be taken into account when calculating the 2016-2017 structural grants.

2. European dimension of the NGO/network [number of signatory States of the European Cultural Convention (CoE member states and Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Holy See) in which the applying NGO/network has branches/members]

The maximum amount of points for this criterion is 29.5 points, the minimum is 3.5 points.

Each NGO/network is given 0.5 points for each member state of the Council of Europe in which it has 1 or more members/branches (minimum 3.5 points and maximum 23.5 points).

In addition, each NGO/network is awarded 2 points for each of the 3 non-member state signatory of the Cultural Convention (maximum 6 points).

3. Direct link with the financial need (staff employed by the European structure or secretariat of the applicant NGO/network)

Each NGO/network is given 5.5 points if it employs staff (irrespective of number of employees, wages and working hours). Proof of employment must be submitted to the EYF.

Qualitative criteria

4. Link and support to the youth sector priorities (evaluation of the strategic approach of the NGO/network)

Each NGO/network is given a **maximum of 20 points** based on the assessment of their NGO/network's strategic approach in relation to the priorities defined by the Joint Council on Youth for each biennium. For example, for 2014/2015 the Joint Council on Youth agreed on 8 priorities. [See document](#). 2.5 points will be given for each priority, depending on its inclusion in the strategic approach.

When is the next deadline?

- **SG1: 1st October 2014 (grant for 2015)**
- **SG2: 1st October 2015 (grant for 2016-2017)**

What to do next?

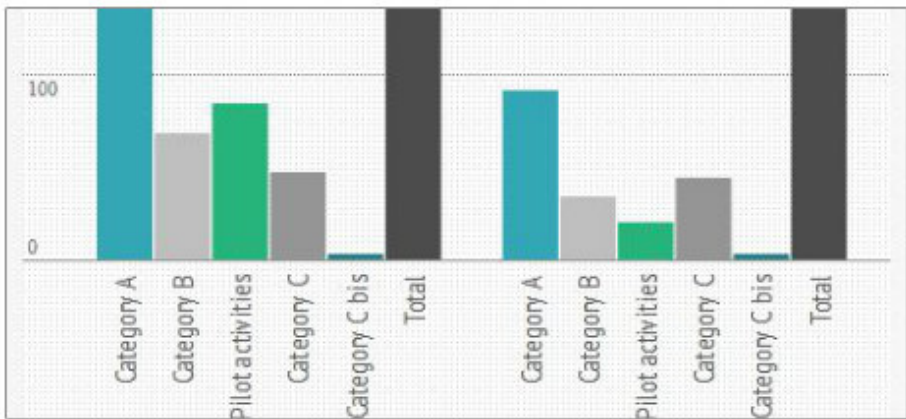
- Prepare for the deadlines in time.
- Read the youth sector priorities document.
- If you are not clear on how structural grants are calculated, drop us a line at eyf@coe.int

Tip 1: "Check the facts"

Strasbourg, 31 January 2014

Ok, so you applied last minute, the system is slow and you encounter problems... wonder why??

Have you ever wondered how many applications the EYF received at the same time as you sent in yours?



Or... have you wondered how many other EYF supported activities are taking place in your country??

Have a look at the EYF website [About us/What we do/Key facts](#) and your questions will be answered!

Click on the bars and you will see the EXACT NUMBER!

And... next time, don't forget to apply ahead of the deadline!

We want your feedback!



Strasbourg, 31 January 2014

The EYF team would like to apologise for the difficulties and interruptions you may have experienced with the new application and reporting system. To a certain degree, these issues are to be expected and normal for any new tool developed.

The system has been tested and is still currently under development, however the Secretariat is unable to recreate all the problems you, as users, have encountered.

We would appreciate it if you could send your comments and feedback to eyf@coe.int

Deadline: EYF and EYC



Strasbourg, 24 March 2014

No new NGO registrations accepted for the 1st of April deadline.

The first European Youth Foundation deadline of the year - **1 APRIL** - is approaching.

This concerns:

- ✓ **international activities** taking place during the 1st half of 2015
- ✓ **work plans** for 2015.

See below which type of organisation can apply for each grant:

TYPE OF ORGANISATION		GRANT TYPES
International youth NGO	Members/branches in ≥7 CoE member states* (main office/seat and 7 other countries)	• International activity • Work plan
International network of youth NGOs	≥7 youth NGOs in 7 different countries (applicant organisation + 6 other NGOs in different CoE member countries*)	• International activity • Work plan
Regional network of youth NGOs	Present in ≥4 and not more than 6 countries (applicant NGO + 3 to 5 other NGOs in different CoE member countries*)	• International activity
National youth NGO	Based in CoE member state* at national level	• International activity (with partners)

Should you want to prepare your draft application in Word format and copy/paste it into the system, or you have various colleagues working on different parts of the application, use the templates to help you.

Go to: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/european-youth-foundation/guidelines-and-templates> and download the international activity and work plan template.

Take the time to prepare and apply in advance!!

The **1st of April** is also a deadline for the European Youth Centres (EYC).

A call for applications for activities to be held in co-operation with the EYCs in Strasbourg and Budapest has been launched.

For more information, visit the Youth Department website: <https://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/>

Pilot activity grant applications



Strasbourg, 20 January 2014

Applications must be submitted at least three months before the beginning of the activity. The Programming Committee on Youth takes decisions on pilot activities every 2-3 months.

The decisions of the Programming Committee concerning applications received until the **19th of January 2014** will be communicated mid-February.

Decisions on applications submitted between **20th January - 16th**

March will be communicated to NGOs at the beginning of April 2014.

We advise you to submit your application in good time before the start of the project to allow for sufficient time for communication and assessment.

A pilot activity should be an **"intervention"**, i.e. an activity addressing a contextual societal challenge affecting young people at local level. It should also be **based on innovation or on replication**.

Furthermore, these pilot activities should have clear links to and an impact on the **local context** and correspond to focused **themes of the Council of Europe** youth programme (please refer to the [priorities for the Council of Europe's youth sector for 2014-2015](#)).

What does this mean for NGOs applying for grants for a pilot activity?

When assessing applications for pilot activities taking place in 2014, the EYF will concentrate on the following criteria:

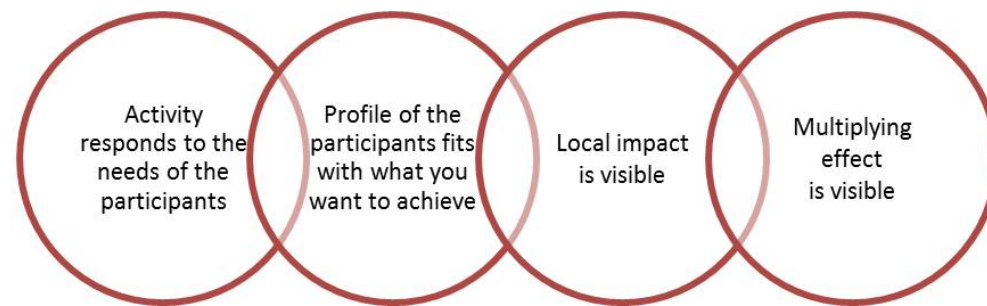
- Activities addressing challenges affecting young people at local level. What the EYF expects is that you highlight a specific challenge/concern affecting young people at local level based on real needs, and propose ways of tackling the issue with a view to finding solutions.



- Activities should be based on innovation or on replication and have clear links to and an impact on the local context.
 - What is an innovative activity? Examples could be using new approaches, methodologies and/or tools in different contexts based on the specific needs of the target group. Show us what innovation means for you!
 - What is an activity based on replication? An example could be taking as a basis a good practice of a project that has taken place in one particular setting, and adapting it to another cultural setting or with a different target group based on the needs and specific context.
- Activities developed in the framework of the priority programmes of the youth sector of the Council of Europe will be considered. Examples: Young people combating Hate Speech On-Line, Roma Youth Action Plan, Youth Peace Ambassadors, Enter 2!, Beyond the crisis and Participation at local and regional level.

Please also note that special attention will be given to pilot activities integrating a gender perspective. This should in fact be the case for all EYF-supported activities and should be clearly explained in the grant application.

The EYF does not want to tell you what to do. You are in the best position to know what the needs of young people are in your local context and how to respond to them. We **encourage you to develop your own project** addressing issues that are specific to your community/environment/country, and that will have a local impact and a clear multiplying effect.



EYF includes volunteer time in grants



Strasbourg, 20 January 2014

The European Youth Foundation has the pleasure and privilege to **announce the inclusion of volunteer time recognition (VTR) in EYF grants**. The EYF is the 1st European structure of its kind to officially acknowledge the work of thousands of youth work volunteers.

At its December 2013 meeting, the Programming Committee on youth agreed on a method to valorise volunteer time contribution in grant applications and reports for work plans and international

activities (from 1 April 2014) and for pilot activities (from 1 January 2014).

The methodology used to calculate VTR is based on specific criteria. However, one key element of the calculation of VTR is based on **clear and transparent communication** on the part of NGOs with EYF Secretariat, as well as **mutual trust and respect**.

As VTR is a new concept included in EYF grants, the Secretariat recalls that this is only a 2 year trial period and its renewal will depend on the results and experience gained.

Definition of VTR:

Volunteer time recognition is a contribution people provide of their own free will to invest time and service for the benefit of a youth activity implemented by a non-profit-making youth-led organisation, and for which there is no monetary or in-kind payment (e.g. fees, salaries).

For further details on **conditions, calculation and assessment** of VTR, please refer to the [official document](#).

Guidelines towards Environmental Sustainability



Strasbourg, 20 janvier 2014

The European Youth Foundation joins in the effort to ensure the preservation of our natural environment and resources by encouraging NGOs to apply the **"Guidelines towards Environmental Sustainability for Projects Supported by the European Youth Foundation"**.

The guidelines provide clear but also ambitious recommendations for NGOs carrying out EYF supported activities. The main aims of this initiative are the reduction of environmental impact of EYF

supported activities and awareness raising regarding environmental sustainability.

Not only have societies changed their view about the relationship between the environment and humans (from humans as master of nature, using the environment for maximum gain) but also their actions towards the environment.

As such, **sustainability is an issue that concerns everyone**; from governments, to public opinion and businesses. It is both a principle (based on 3 pillars: economic, environmental and social) which has been included by various sectors (more or less successfully) into their frame of action and a formal political principle.

The European Youth Foundation is pleased to present the "Guidelines" document, initially developed by a working group that was set up by the Programming Committee on Youth. This shows the interest and involvement of both youth NGOs and government representatives for a crucial issue.

The European Youth Foundation is also proud to be encouraging and sustaining this unique project of making EYF supported activities eco-friendly. We hope that similar donors will follow in our footsteps and that NGOs will gradually apply all recommendations.

All BIG changes start with SMALL steps, so take ACTION!!!

TAKE ACTION, IT'S EASY:

1. Planes, cars, taxis ... **THINK** first!
2. Choose **GREEN**: trains, ferries, buses and trams!
3. **VIRTUAL** is good!
4. Buy **LOCAL** products!
5. BUY organic, fair-trade, GMO-free food, snack and beverages!
6. **LESS** meat is GOOD!
7. **OPEN tap** and not bottle (when possible)!
8. Portion control with buffet!
9. **Eco-friendly** food packaging!
10. Reduce quantity!
11. Go for **BIO!** & look for the **green LOGOs!**
12. Look out for waste!
13. 3Rs: **REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!**

Download the "Guidelines towards Environmental Sustainability for Projects Supported by the European Youth Foundation" [HERE](#).

We need your material



Strasbourg, 7 January 2014

In the past few years, many great educational materials have been developed by the NGOs working with the European Youth Foundation. The EYF team has been impressed with the quality of some of your results.

In 2014, the EYF wishes to create a platform on its website where all the excellent materials which you have produced during your EYF activities will be published! If you have produced **material such as toolkits, leaflets, videos, PowerPoint presentations** etc., we

encourage you to send it to eyf@coe.int. If your material is relevant, coherent and clear we will publish it on our website!

To be one of the first NGOs to have their materials published on the site, please send us your material **before 1st February**, together with a statement of agreement that you cede to the EYF on an exclusive basis and for an unlimited period of time all rights to your material for any purpose falling within the EYF activities.

By putting together tools and documents, such a platform could then be used as an online library which could enable any NGO organising an activity to find relevant material which has already been produced on the same topic.

Thank you in advance to all NGOs participating in this initiative!

New reporting guidelines available

Strasbourg, 6 January 2014



financial report

- A Word template for the list of participants

What you must keep in mind when writing your report is to remain as clear, coherent and concrete as possible. We want to understand what you have done as well as the impact of your activity on young people.

We have tried to make these guidelines as clear as possible. However, if something is confusing or needs further development, let us know so that we can try and make it better, clearer and friendlier.

Please read these documents before your activity takes place!

The 2013 Global Overview is now available!



materials/Documentation section of the website.

To print in leaflet format select "print on both sides, flip pages on short edge".

Strasbourg, 31 January 2014

Faithful to its reinforced values and new 2013 philosophy the European Youth Foundation has taken another step towards more transparency and communication.

The *2013 Global Overview* (electronic version only) sets out to present in a concise and straightforward manner the work of the Foundation during the last 12 months.

Download the *2013 Global Overview* [HERE](#) or go to Resources/EYF

CALL for participants: extended!



international youth NGOs and networks.

Last year was a transition year for the European Youth Foundation which included the introduction of new operational regulations, a new online system (containing a new approach) and a new website. In order to reframe and strengthen the partnership with youth NGOs within this new context the first EYF reloaded seminar was successfully implemented in 2013.

Now, one year later, the new regulations, system and website have been launched. The introduction of new grant categories (annual work plan and structural grants) available only for international youth NGOs and networks has been exciting but also challenging for both the NGOs as well as for the EYF. Due to the novelties linked to the new grants (annual work plan and structural grants) the EYF has decided to invite this year only **representatives of international youth NGOs and networks experienced in running youth projects**.

As a result of this meeting, we expect to:

Strasbourg, 10 January 2014

EYF (R)evolution - It all starts with You(th)

11-14 March 2014, Strasbourg, France

Call for participants

Intro & background

From 11 to 14 March 2014, the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe is organising a meeting with representatives of

- receive feedback and share information on the work with the new operational regulations (new online system and website);
- create a common understanding concerning the new grants available (work plans and structural grants);
- gain awareness about the different situations organisations address with the support of EYF grants;
- revitalize transparency and accountability between the European Youth Foundation and youth organisations;
- achieve open and informal networking between the EYF team and the people running projects with EYF grants;
- share best practices concerning projects.

Who is this meeting for?

If you were/are running EYF-funded projects in an international youth NGO or network that is registered in the EYF database this invitation is for you!

We ask each organisation to send only one application!

We are looking for 30-40 people who:

- are able to work in English;
- are aged between 18-30 (some exceptions for 30+ will be possible);
- run youth projects (writing applications, implementing, reporting) for an international NGO or network registered with the EYF;
- are working as multipliers in their organisation/network;
- have had experience with grant applications to the EYF (successful or not) including first experiences working with the new online system of the EYF during the last months

For the final selection we will try to ensure a gender balance and a good geographical representation of Council of Europe countries and its civil society organisations.

What can you expect?

You can expect a highly interactive atmosphere with a combination of non-formal methods, informal discussions, practical workshops and updates on the political context in which the EYF is working. There will be the possibility to exchange updates, news and views about the new online system and the way EYF works since 2013.

Where and when will the meeting take place?

Place: European Youth Centre in Strasbourg (France) - www.coe.int/youth

Opening: 14:30 hours on Tuesday 11 March 2014

Closing: 18:00 hours on Friday 14 March 2014

Participants should arrive on Tuesday 11 March before 12:00 at the latest and leave on Saturday 15 March.

What are the financial conditions?

Travel expenses and visa fees will be reimbursed (on presentation of the relevant receipts) according to Council of Europe rules. Only the participants who attend the whole meeting will be reimbursed. Payment will be made by bank transfer after the meeting.

Accommodation and meals (full board) will be provided at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg for all participants (paid for by the Council of Europe).

Further information will be sent to selected participants.

Selection and deadline for applications

Any organisation wishing to nominate a person to attend this meeting is invited to send the application form (below) to eyf@coe.int before **12 January 2014** (midnight CET).

Selected participants will receive confirmation and more information on logistics at the end of January 2014.

[Application form](#)