

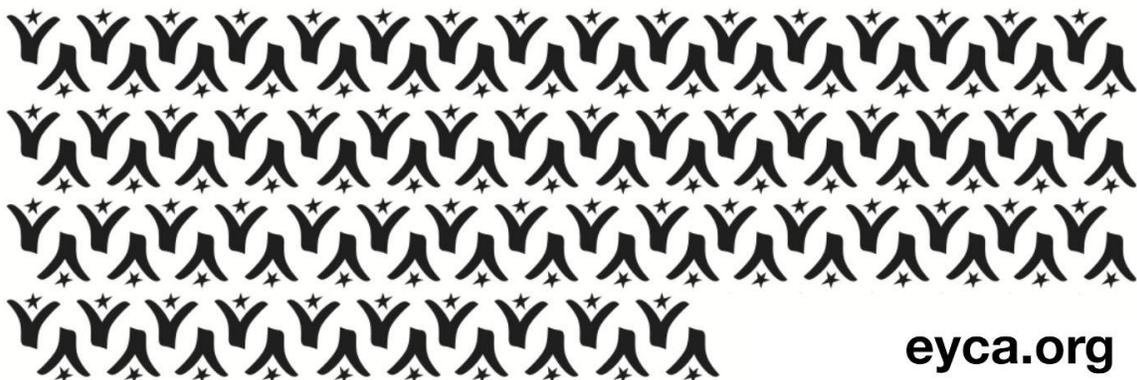


Democracy done right: young people as key actors in pluralistic democracies and the role of the European Youth Card

17 – 18 November 2022
Santa Severa, Lazio Region, Italy

Seminar of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA)

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS



Introduction

The seminar “**Democracy done right: young people as key actors in pluralistic democracies - role of the European Youth Card**” is organised within the 2022 programme of activities of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card and is aimed at supporting the recognition of various forms of participation in community and democratic societies and to explore the different ways in which the European Youth Card can be a tool for engagement of all young people.

About the organisers

The Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card exists since 1991 and is a programme of the Council of Europe aimed at developing the youth card scheme, particularly at European level, in the best interests of young people with a view to facilitating their mobility as well as access to the various goods and services necessary for their personal and cultural development.

The European Youth Card Association (EYCA) groups around 36 youth card organisations all over Europe and is the Partial Agreement’s statutory partner. EYCA’s vision is a Europe where all young people are mobile and active (socially, culturally, educationally and economically). EYCA’s mission to reach this objective consists in delivering quality youth card services and in contributing to a better policy on youth mobility and active citizenship. Today, over six million youth card-holders benefit from youth card opportunities.

LAZIOcrea, Italy, co-operates with the Lazio Region through support activities for the functioning of the Lazio Regional Council. The Lazio Region - Directorate for Youth Policies, Civil Service and Sports takes care of the implementation of regional legislation on youth policies, promoting the socio-economic, cultural, artistic and creative development of the new generations. It collaborates with other regional structures in implementing regional legislation on «measures to support young people» and «promotion of instruments of institutional participation of young generations in local political and administrative life».

About the seminar

The Council of Europe is the leading Pan-European international organisation promoting inclusive, human-rights based youth policies. The Council of Europe highly values the active participation of young people in decision-making particularly through one of the most advanced models of youth participation world-wide – the co-management system (see <https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/co-management>).

Over the past years, youth participation witnessed various ways of expression, from actively running for elected positions, to protests and using the social media to draw attention to different political issues, with young people finding new, alternative ways of engaging. However, the space for civic participation for youth has consistently shrunk over the past years, in particular due to civil restrictions caused by health crisis measures.

In response to the many challenges present, the Council of Europe launched the campaign Democracy Here, Democracy Now, aiming to revitalise democratic participation. Young people need to be recognised as key actors in pluralistic democracies and strengthen their agency as citizens and as a very particular electorate.

In this context, social media clearly create new opportunities for voice, for action and possibly influence. But they create risks too, as engagement with participatory politics might not always develop in positive ways. That’s where schools come into the picture, playing their traditional role of preparing students to be citizens. It will be a challenge for researchers, teachers and education policy makers to keep pace with the rapid use of digital media by youth.

The seminar **aims at:**

1) offering a space for debate and reflection on how pluralistic democracies can be revitalised and what is the role of youth organisations;

2) identifying how tools such as the European Youth Card (EYC) can be used to educate and engage young citizens in important civic debates and empower them as key actors in their communities;

3) making policy recommendations to strengthen youth participation in emerging areas such as internet governance, while implementing the principles of the Council of Europe policy frameworks (ex. the Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life).

Profile of the participants

This one-day-and-a-half seminar is open to up to 40 participants with expertise in youth affairs/youth mobility, youth work and youth participation:

- Governmental representatives of the member states of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card;
- EYCA member organisations, partners and networks;
- European youth organisations and civil society organisations, with particular focus on the subjects of the seminar from member states party to the European Cultural Convention;
- Researchers in youth participation and other subjects relevant to the seminar.

Practical information

Travel

The selected participants are responsible for arranging their own travel possibly in a most **economical way**.

EYCA will reimburse international travel costs upon receiving the justificative documents, up to 350 euros and the tickets need to be booked at least 15 days in advance before travelling.

A "Request for reimbursement" will be sent to all attendees.

E-ticket/ invoice / train/bus tickets should clearly show the paid amount.

Traveling by car: 0.25 Euros/km, upon receiving the gas receipt.

The participants' travel to and from the event as well as their stay during the seminar will be covered by the Council of Europe insurance.

Venue meeting, board and lodging

The event will take place at the [Santa Severa Castle](#), address: SS1 Via Aurelia, Km 52,600, 00058 – Santa Marinella.

Accommodation and lodging will be offered by the organisers.

All confirmed participants will be offered more information about the local transport.

Visa

Those participants who need visa to travel to Italy are requested to fill in Appendix III and send a scanned copy of their passport. Please note that the Council of Europe will assist with obtaining a visa for the selected participants.

Application

To apply, please send your form completed (Appendix II) to youthmobility@coe.org by Sunday, **23 October 2022** at midnight CET.

If selected, please expect a reply approximately in a week.

Contact

Regarding visa issues: youthmobility@coe.org

Regarding practical issues: Corina Pirvulescu, EYCA: corina.pirvulescu@eyca.org

APPENDIX I

DRAFT SEMINAR PROGRAMME

DAY 0 THURSDAY 16 th November 2022	
Until 20.00	Arrival of participants and dinner
DAY 1 THURSDAY 17 th November 2022	
10.00 – 10.30	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lazio Regional Government • Council of Europe • EYCA Director
10.30 – 10.45	Aim and objectives of the Seminar -mapping the audience -expectations Introduction of the facilitator, presentation and expectations of participants
10.45 – 11.30	Presentation of EYCA Presentation of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card
11.30 – 12.00	Coffee break
12.00 -13.00	From social media to the civic spaces – youth as key actors in democracies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keynote speaker on resilience of youth participation – Cristina Bacalso (TBC) • Democracy Here, Democracy Now – presentation of CoE campaign
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch break
14.30 – 15.30	Presentations: European Youth Card and the Youth Participation best practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LazioCrea - the EYC and local participation with a European dimension • Centre for Youth Education, Montenegro – empowering rural youth to participate
15.30 – 16.30	Contributions from participants and connections to EYC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth and Media Information Literacy • Inclusion of young people with disabilities in democratic participation processes • Various forms of youth participation <p><i>Floating coffee break</i></p>
16.30 – 17.00	Presentations from work groups and closing remarks
17.00 – 18.00	Free time or visit of the Santa Severa Castle (tbc)
19.30	Dinner

DAY 2 FRIDAY, 18 th November 2022	
9:30 – 11.00	<p>Panel discussion: empowering youth as key actors in democracies</p> <p><i>Panellists to be confirmed, but to include: a young journalists, a local youth activists, Advisory Council on Youth, EYCA Director, LazioCrea representative, etc.</i></p>
11.00 - 11.30	Coffee break
11.30- 13.00	<p>Presentations: European Youth Card and the Youth Participation best practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madrid Youth Card , Spain • aha – Jugendinfo Vorarlberg, Austria <p>Questions and Answers</p>
13.00 -14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 16.00	<p>Conclusions</p> <p>Possible recommendations to the EYCA organisations and policy-makers</p> <p>Next steps and closing of the Seminar</p> <p>Departures</p>

APPENDIX II

Application form/Expression of interest

PERSONAL DETAILS				
First name				
Last name				
Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)		Nationality		Gender (M/F)
Permanent address				
	Postal code			
	Town		Country	
Place of work				
Address of the employer				
Email				
Telephone (with country and city codes!)				
Mobile				
Emergency contact details				

DETAILS OF THE NOMINATING ORGANISATION				
Name of organisation				
Postal address				
	Zip code			
	City		Country	
Email address				
Telephone				
Fax				
<p>Brief info about your organisation (field of work, activities etc.)</p> <p>What are your role and tasks within your organisation?</p>				

Do you have any **special needs or requirements** that the hosting organisation should know about? (E.g. mobility, medical needs, allergies, dietary restrictions)

APPENDIX III

Do you need a visa?

- No**
- Yes**

If yes, please fill in the following information (as spelled out in your passport) and **attach a copy of your passport**:

First name	
Last name	
Date of birth	
Passport number	
Time and place of issue	
Valid till	
Place where you will apply for a multiple Schengen visa	
Place of studying/ work and your position	
Address of the educational establishment/ employer	

DEADLINE – SUNDAY 23 OCTOBER 2022 MIDNIGHT ECT

ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO

youthmobility@coe.int