

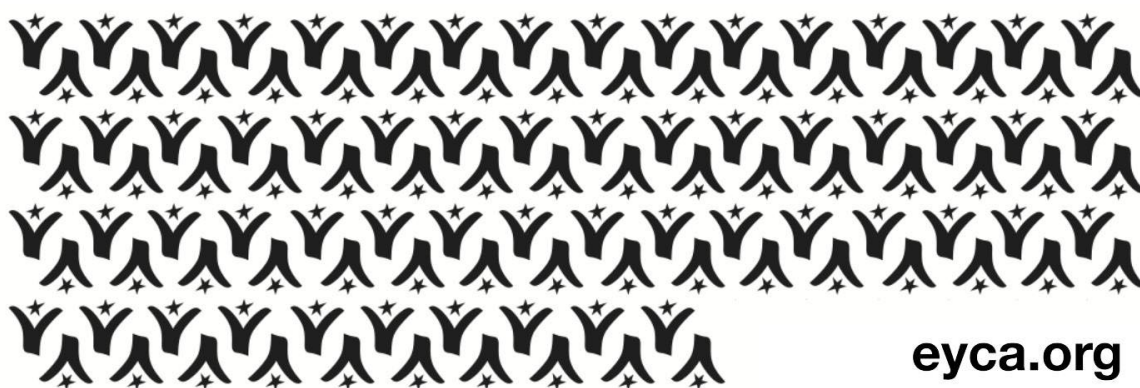
Exploring different models of democratic participation: fostering youth participation through the European Youth Card

17 – 18 October 2019

European Youth Centre Strasbourg, France

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

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS



Context:

Introduction

The seminar *“Exploring different models of democratic participation: fostering youth participation through the European Youth Card”* is organised to support the recognition of various forms of participation in community and democratic societies and to explore the different ways in which the EYC 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.

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.

The participation of young people in decision-making processes – be they political, civic, civil society or other – fosters their active citizenship, enhances their inclusion, and strengthens their contribution to the advancement of democracy. It is essential, therefore, to foster this participation and one of the Council of Europe youth sector’s strategic objectives is to support young people’s (positive) attitude to influence decisions in democratic processes – be that at national, regional or local levels – and to increase their involvement in the development of inclusive and peaceful societies.

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. But it seems clear that the virtual world can be good for

the real world¹.

The seminar aims to:

- a) Offer the space for debate on and recognition of the variety of forms in which young people make their voices heard, including through digital means;
- b) Explore the ways in which European Youth Card can be a tool to reach out to disengaged young people and encourage them to actively participate at all levels.

The seminar will bring together policy makers in the youth field, youth workers, youth activists and young people, both organised and non-organised, as well as from various structures of representation (ex: young people involved in the 'Rejuvenating politics' initiative of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the CoE).

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 Council of Europe;
- Researchers in youth participation;
- EYCA member organisations, partners and networks;
- International organisations;
- European youth organisations and civil society organisations;
- Young activists and non-organised young people from the States party to the European Cultural Convention (EES).

Practical information

Transport

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 30 days in advance before travelling.

- Request for reimbursement (to be sent to all attendees)
- E-ticket/ invoice / train/bus tickets clearly showing 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

Lodging is ensured for all guests at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg, France, the same space where the seminar will take place: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/eyc-strasbourg>. The site also provides information on how to find one's way to the European Youth Centre whatever your travel arrangements. Meals will be ensured for the whole duration of the event.

¹ « Digital media shapes youth participation in politics » by Joseph Kahne and Ellen Middaugh.

Visa

Those participants who need visa to travel to France 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, **18th August 2019** at midnight CET and fill in the registration form available [at this link](#). Please expect a reply by early September.

Contact

Regarding visa issues: youthmobility@coe.org

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

APPENDIX I

DRAFT SEMINAR PROGRAMME

DAY 1 THURSDAY 17 th OCTOBER 2019	
Until 15:00	Arrival of participants and lunch
15.00 – 15.15	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council of Europe EYCA Director
15.15 – 15.45	Aim and objectives of the Seminar -mapping the audience -expectations Introduction of the facilitator, presentation and expectations of participants EYCA presentation
15.45 – 16.30	From youth movements to youth in decision making & new forms of participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key note speaker on youth movements across Europe and how it shaped the continent's history – TBC Rejuvenating politics of CoE initiative - youth representative speaking on their experience of connecting local to the European participation
16.30 – 16.45	Coffee break
16.45 – 17.30	Presentations: European Youth Card and the Youth Participation best practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Work Ireland – engaging young people in their communities Aġenzija Żgħażaġh – Malta – fostering youth participation in democratic life
17.30 – 19.30	Free time
19.30	Dinner
DAY 2 FRIDAY, 18 th OCTOBER 2019	
9:30 – 10:30	From local to European: old and new forms of participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bruno Antonio, DYPALL – fostering youth social inclusion through participation at municipal level and creating synergies across Europe Expert in youth and media literacy (TBC) – Youth participation & media

	and information literacy (MIL)
10.30 – 11:30	<p>Presentations: European Youth Card and the Youth Participation best practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CJP Netherlands – celebrating youth participation – Young Impact Award presentation • Young Scot – building skills for youth participation <p>Questions and Answers</p>
11.30 - 11.45	Coffee break
11.45 - 13.00	<p>Presentations: European Youth Card and the Youth Participation best practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jugendkarte GmbH – Austria – facilitating access to information for all young people • Hosteling International Croatia – mobilising and informing young voters, presentation of #GiveAVote local experiences <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				

Brief info about your organisation (field of work, activities etc.)

What are your **role** and tasks within your organisation?

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 18 AUGUST 2019 MIDNIGHT ECT

ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO
youthmobility@coe.int