



Budapest, 17 June 2019

10th European Platform of Youth Centres

18-19 June 2019
European Youth Centre Budapest

Programme

Involving Youth Centres in the youth policy & youth work of the Council of Europe

The European Youth Centres in Budapest and Strasbourg are the backbone of the Council of Europe's youth sector. They serve as educational laboratories for the development of quality standards for youth work and focal points for innovation in youth policy development. Through the European Youth Centres, the Council of Europe offers young people and the formal and non-formal structures of youth civil society across Europe, high-level educational support, protected physical spaces and residential facilities, and access to all other sectors of the Council of Europe. The work programme of the European Youth Centres is a unique combination of policy development, training, research and educational innovation. They are centres of excellence and a central pillar of the reputation of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe as a standard setter in the youth sector.

In 2008, the European Steering Committee on Youth (CDEJ) adopted a project to promote the European Youth Centres of the Council of Europe as standard-setting instruments and examples of good practice for youth policy. This project aims at knowledge sharing and networking among youth centres across Europe.

The Council of Europe Quality Label for Youth Centres project includes three components:

1. The Council of Europe Quality Label for Youth Centres, to be awarded to youth centres that meet the standards;
2. An annual training session for the educational staff of the youth centres involved in the network;
3. An annual meeting of the European Platform of Youth Centres to ensure networking and experience sharing among centres recognised with the Quality Label and those aspiring to its acquisition.

The annual European Platform meeting

serves as a space for exchange and knowledge sharing among the Quality Labelled Youth Centres and those aspiring to its acquisition. The 10th Platform will take place at the European Youth Centre Budapest (EYCB) on 18-19 June 2019.

Objectives

- to inform about recent developments in youth policy on European level and to discuss how they can be used by the centres for recognition of their work and impact;
- to exchange experience and practices among centres in how they address the challenges they are facing at national level;
- to develop joint approaches to promote the youth centres and quality youth work;
- to ensure networking and cooperation possibilities among Labelled Youth Centres.

Thematic focus – quality management

Currently, with 13 Quality Labelled Centres and several other youth centres remaining ready to enter an evaluation process, the network has developed into a strong core group of centres that successfully promote multilateral cooperation and the values and principles of the Council of Europe.

The Platform meeting for labelled youth centres will focus on common challenges of strategic importance that managers are being faced with in running a youth centre. It is hoped that this year's programme can build on last year's positive experience and offer a thought-provoking strategic discussion and exchange among managers (and other key staff) on quality management in youth centres, evaluating quality of youth work and designing transparent and impactful reporting of youth centres' work.

Participants

The Platform will bring together:

- managers and other key staff members of the youth centres awarded the Quality Label, youth centres currently in the process of acquiring the Quality Label, or youth centres planning to initiate such process;
- decision-makers planning to establish a youth centre with Council of Europe philosophy and quality standards;
- Members of the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ), other representatives of national youth ministries who support a selected youth centre, and Advisory Council on Youth.

(Pedagogical staff should primarily attend the annual Quality Label training course.)

Working language

The Platform meeting will be held in English only.

Practical arrangements

The Platform meeting will be held from 18 to 19 June 2019 at the European Youth Centre Budapest. Participants are requested to attend for the entire duration of the meeting and are asked to plan their arrival for 17 June in the afternoon and their departure for 19 June at lunchtime. More information on how to arrive to the EYCB can be found here:

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/eyc-budapest>

Accommodation in single rooms will be provided for the duration of the Platform meeting at the EYCB. To ensure your meals and accommodation is reserved we please ask you to send Zita Karacson (zita.karacson@coe.int) your arrival and departure dates and times and any dietary needs you might have as soon as possible, and no later than 20 May.

Further inquiries

For further information, please contact Zita Karacson programme assistant, youthcentres.quality@coe.int.

Monday, 17 June

Arrival and check-in

19.00 Informal welcome and barbeque dinner in the EYCB garden

Tuesday, 18 June

09.00 Opening and welcome address
Matjaž Gruden, Director of Democratic Participation, Council of Europe (viseo)

09.15 Tour de table - presentation of participants and youth centres

09.30 State of play: Council of Europe & the Quality Label Programme
➤ 10th Anniversary of the European Platform for Youth Centres
Georges Metz, Director of the National Youth Service Luxembourg, member of the Quality Label expert team

➤ Developments since the last Platform meeting
Gordana Berjan, Executive Director of the European Youth Centre Budapest, Council of Europe

➤ New brochure on good practices in quality labelled youth centres
Jeanne Adam, Consultant

10.15 Updates from youth centres reporting on main developments in the last year

10.45 Coffee break

11.15 Session I: Quality management in youth centres
➤ Presentation of new text/brochure on quality management and reporting of (labelled) youth centres
➤ Exchange on quality and quality management in the context of residential youth centres

12.45 Lunch

14.15 Session II: Working with the quality management cycle
• Systematising and ensuring continuous quality development of youth centres' functions, services and programmes
• Documentation and reporting of youth centres' work - testing the practicality of the reporting tool presented in the new text/brochure

16.15 Coffee break

16.45 Session III: 10th Anniversary of the European Platform for Youth Centres - reviewing and evaluating a decade of cooperation for the involvement of youth centres in youth policy and youth work of the Council of Europe.

17.45 Celebration "10 Years of the European Platform and the Quality Label for Youth Centres"

18.15 Closing of the day

19.30 Dinner in Restaurant Köleves, (Kazinczy utca 41, district 7; Pest side)

Wednesday, 19 June

- 09.00 Session IV: Good practices on quality management in youth centres: effective planning in youth centres
➤ *Bert Mellebeek, Director, de Hoge Rielen Youth Centre, Belgium*
➤ *Sandra Britz, Director, Marienthal Youth Centre, Luxembourg*
- 10.15 Coffee break
- 10.45 Cooperation opportunities with the European Youth Card Association (EYCA)
➤ *Manel Sanchez, Director, EYCA*
- 11.15 Future developments of the Platform and QL programme
- Proposals for the 2020 Platform meeting
 - Networking and cooperation among labelled youth centres; multiplying the work of youth centres at national, regional, local levels;
 - Associating youth centres with Council of Europe 'Youth for Democracy' programme; support required from the Council of Europe Youth Department.
- 12.00 Conclusions and closing of meeting
- 12.10 Guided tour of the European Youth Centre (optional)
➤ *Csaba Kedves, In-house Services Manager, EYCB*
- 13.00 Lunch
- Departure