



INVITATION TO THE
WORKING GROUP ON

*Practices
consolidating and
expanding youth
civil society*

Organised by

The Youth Delegates program of
the Conference of INGOs

the European Confederation of
Youth Clubs





Context

The European Confederation of Youth Clubs together with the Youth Delegates program of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe are organizing a series of meetings and exchanges on the topic of youth and shrinking spaces for civil society.

This year, the European Year of youth, has brought many challenges to youth civil society. In a time of crisis, exceptional measures have been undertaken by member states. These measures have in some cases undermined our long-term interest in safeguarding the values of democracy, rule of law, and/or basic human rights. On the other hand, youth civil society may have a particular vulnerability to negative trends such as the spread and effects of disinformation that characterise democratic backsliding.

To address the challenges facing young people and youth civil society we have set up a working group on information exchange and monitoring of civil space. We believe that keeping the conversation alive around changes challenging youth civic spaces, exchanging information, and being supportive of youth civil society organisations transitionally, leads to a sustainable and enabling environment, quality youth work and meaningful youth participation.

Exchanging good practice examples

In the past our working group has developed two collections of first-hand accounts on the effects and mechanism of shrinking spaces of civil society (<https://youthworkstory.wordpress.com>, <https://www.ecyc.org/sites/default/files/shifting-space.-eap-edition-publication-2020.pdf>).

These case studies are now joined by a third selection of accounts of youth organizations and young people detailing the voluntary and accidental restrictions imposed on youth civil society.

We want youth clubs, youth NGOs, informal groups of young people or anyone involved in youth work or youth policy making, to give us examples of what they believe to be good practices in consolidating and supporting youth civil society.

The case studies are collected via this link:
<https://forms.gle/brVZdma5tJa3sFR47>

The deadline to submit your case study is the 15th of December 2023. Should you need any support to complete your case study please contact info@ecyc.org or rared.craut@ingo-coe.org



Meeting for an exchange of views

IN PERSON AND ONLINE
1ST OF DECEMBER 2022

REGISTRATIONS:
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/QCDRQOWYRNF7QNRH9](https://forms.gle/QCDRQOWYRNF7QNRH9)

All times are Central European Time	Topic	In person participation	Digital participation
09.30 - 11.00	Get together breakfast		
11.00 - 11.40	Opening notes		
11.40 - 12.30	Share best practices on how to enable and expand youth civil society		
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch break		
14.00 - 15.30	Seeking synergies with existing exchange mechanisms in the European sphere		
15.30 - 16.30	Preparation for Brussels visits		

IN PERSON

Fédération des Centres de Jeunes en Milieu Populaire
Rue Saint-Ghislain, 26, 1000, Bruxelles

ONLINE

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83930730315?pwd=dWtqY0pOU3dEZGsxZhwTHRdZFQ3Zz09>
Meeting ID: 839 3073 0315
Passcode: 594655