

YOUTH DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2025



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Cover design and layout: Publications and Visual Identity Division (DPIV), Council of Europe

Photos: Youth Department, Shutterstock.

Published by the Directorate of Democratic Participation, Youth Department.

This publication has not been copy-edited by the DPIV Editorial Unit to correct typographical and grammatical errors.

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Foreword



Tobias Flessenkemper

Head of the Youth Department

2025 was an eventful, challenging and rewarding year for the Council of Europe youth sector. In October, thirteen years after the previous one, the 10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth took place in Malta, under the theme “Young People for Democracy: Youth Perspectives in Action”, setting a new standard as regards youth participation before and during the Conference. The Ministerial Declaration and the Resolution on the Council of Europe Reference Framework on a Youth Perspective will guide the work of the statutory co-management bodies and organisations in the years ahead.

The Council of Europe youth sector strengthened co-operation and instruments through 2025, including with the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities to integrate youth perspectives into their work. The European Charter on Young People’s Participation in Local and Regional Life is being revised, informed by the Braga Youth Conference, which enabled young people to shape the Charter’s ambition, scope and text. The 4th European Youth Work Convention, held in Malta in May at the start of the Maltese Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, highlighted – under the motto Youth Work Xcelerate – the crucial role of youth work in empowering young people, fostering inclusion and encouraging participation. It set out a European roadmap to strengthen and sustain youth work through national and European policies. This work will continue through the European Commission–Council of Europe partnership in the field of youth, with a new 2026–2028 work programme reflecting joint priorities. The Marienthal Statement, adopted by the Network of Council of Europe Quality-Labelled Youth Centres during the Luxembourg Presidency of the Council of Europe, underlined the role of youth centres as hubs of democracy and participation. In May, the Committee of Ministers adopted Recommendation CM/Rec(2025)3 to member States on the social, economic and political participation of rural youth.

These milestones were made possible by our Youth for Democracy programme, delivered by the European Youth Centres in Strasbourg and Budapest and the European Youth Foundation, and by the activities of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card. In 2025, the Committee of Ministers adopted new operational regulations for the European Youth Foundation. The reform of the Foundation makes it more flexible, transparent and responsive to the realities of international non-governmental youth organisations and networks in Europe. 2025 marks a milestone for the European Youth Foundation in confirming its role as future-oriented instrument of the Council of Europe youth sector supporting the work on the New Democratic Pact. Trusted partnerships with youth organisations and networks—including the European Youth Forum and ERYICA—remain the bedrock of the Council of Europe’s youth policy and action. The value of the Council of Europe’s partners in the youth field was evident in our co-operation with Ukraine and with Lviv, European Youth Capital 2025. The European Youth Foundation maintained a Special Call for Ukraine throughout 2025 supporting youth-led activities with and for young people in and from Ukraine. In November, the Council of Europe and the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine signed a five-year framework programme for co-operation in the field of youth policy (2026–2030). We also extended our bilateral co-operation to Azerbaijan and the Republic of Moldova. At the start of the Moldovan Presidency of the Council of Europe, the Human Rights Education Forum reaffirmed the vital importance of human rights and democratic citizenship education for, with and by young people.

Together with the Joint Council on Youth, the Advisory Council on Youth, and our networks and partners, the Council of Europe youth sector is mobilising young people and those who work with and for them and plays a unique role on the path towards a New Democratic Pact for Europe.



The Joint Council on Youth, April 2024

1 / Statutory bodies and youth policy

The Council of Europe's co-management system is a practical model of participatory democracy, providing a space for shared reflection and joint policy development that brings together the voices of young Europeans and public authorities responsible for youth matters.

Youth statutory bodies' work in 2025

■ In 2025, a new [Recommendation](#) on the social, economic, and political participation of rural youth was adopted by the Committee of Ministers following the preparatory work of the youth statutory bodies. Throughout 2025, the [Joint Council on Youth](#) (CMJ) advanced several strategic priorities,

achieving concrete results across key policy areas. Its work included progress on the Youth Department's Accessibility Agenda and the second review of the [Enter! Recommendation](#) on access to social rights for young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods and the review of [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2019\)4](#) on supporting young refugees over 18. The mid-term review of the Council of Europe Youth Sector [Strategy 2030](#) confirmed the continued relevance of the four thematic priorities of the Strategy for the youth sector. The CMJ also started working on the drafting of a new Committee of Ministers Recommendation on peace education by, with and for young people, with a strong focus on youth work, non-formal education, and young people's agency.

■ The [European Steering Committee for Youth](#) (CDEJ) was tasked with organising the [10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth](#), through the designation of a Group of senior officials (GSO), comprising representatives from thirteen member states, two members of the [Advisory Council on Youth](#) (CCJ) and one observer from the European Youth Forum, carrying out an important preparatory work for the Conference.

■ The continued support of member States for youth mobility and youth information was visible in the framework of the various activities organised by the [Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card](#) and in the [co-operation with ERYICA](#).

■ The CCJ made a strong contribution to the youth sector by reinforcing co-management in practice, promoting youth participation, and ensuring the integration of a youth perspective, notably in the context of the Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth. The Committee of Ministers' nomination of 30 new CCJ members for the [2026-2027 mandate](#) reaffirmed political support for the co-management system.

■ The [Programming Committee on Youth](#) (CPI) established the programme of activities of the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg and Budapest, including study sessions, training courses and other activities, and decided on grants to be awarded by the [European Youth Foundation](#).

10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth

■ In 2025, the GSO supported the preparation and co-ordination of the Conference's key documents, leading to the successful organisation of the [Ministerial Conference](#) held in Valletta, Malta, on 8–9 October 2025 under Malta's Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, and preceded by a [Youth Event](#).



10th Ministerial Conference, Malta, 9 October 2025

■ Ministers of Youth and high-level officials from forty-five States Party to the Cultural Convention attended the Conference. Fourteen Ministers and thirteen Deputy Ministers and Secretaries of State for Youth led delegations alongside four ambassadors, and sixteen experts were present. The European Union, UNICEF and other international organisations as well as the European Youth Forum and several international non-governmental youth organisations were also present as observers.

■ A significant innovation in the Conference was the presence, in national delegations, of youth delegates, mainly from national youth councils. Youth delegates were present in thirty-eight delegations, and thirty-four heads of delegation shared their speaking time with youth delegates.

■ Marking a major milestone in the implementation of the [New Democratic Pact for Europe](#), a strategic and political consultation process initiated by the Council of Europe to strengthen democracy's foundations, enhance its benefits, rebuild trust, and innovate its structure, the Conference reaffirmed the Council of Europe's commitment towards young people as key actors in democratic renewal, set strategic orientations for the future of the youth sector, and underlined continued support for Ukraine in the field of youth.

■ The Conference resulted in the adoption of a [Ministerial Declaration](#) and a [Resolution](#) on the Council of Europe Reference Framework on a Youth Perspective, both of which received strong political recognition. The Declaration set out core commitments on youth policy, democracy, human rights, trust, and international solidarity, while the Resolution called upon member States to ensure that young people's rights, needs, and voices are systematically considered in policy-making across all sectors – not just in youth policy, thereby strengthening democratic participation, social inclusion, and trust

in institutions, in line with the Council of Europe New Democratic Pact for Europe. Further detailed information on the Conference and related events is provided in section 7 *Conferences and events*.

Youth Perspectives

■ Council of Europe youth sector continued to anchor youth perspectives in the Organisation's work. A historic milestone is the endorsement by the Ministers responsible for Youth of the Council of Europe [Reference Framework on a Youth Perspective](#). Developed by the Joint Council on Youth, the Framework provides guidance to the Council of Europe and its member States on systematically integrating young people's perspectives into policy and decision-making processes, promoting co-creation and meaningful participation throughout the policy cycle.

■ Throughout 2025, the Youth Department spearheaded the integration of a youth perspective across the Organisation's work, in close co-operation with intergovernmental committees and other Council of Europe bodies. This included contributions to organisational evaluations, enhanced engagement with the Parliamentary Assembly through youth participation mechanisms, and the continued involvement of youth representatives in intergovernmental committees, supporting the development of strategies, policies and recommendations across a wide range of thematic areas, including democracy, human rights, gender equality, education, the environment, and digital challenges.



Ministerial Conference Youth Event, Malta, 8 October 2025

■ The youth perspective was further reinforced through targeted events, thematic exchanges, and cross-sectoral co-operation, including work with the Parliament Assembly's Youth Rapporteurs, and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities to update European the Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life.



Democracy in action, Strasbourg, 3-5 December 2025

2/ Youth for Democracy

The Youth for Democracy programme seeks to encourage young people's active engagement and independence within peaceful, inclusive societies across Europe. Its work is based on a co-management principle that directly includes young people in decision-making processes.

■ The programme activities – training courses, conferences, seminars, consultative meetings, youth peace camps and study sessions – prepare young people from across Europe to promote the core values of the Council of Europe. They bring youth from all 46 member states and beyond to the European Youth Centres in Budapest and in Strasbourg to delve deeper into the youth [priority themes](#).

In 2025, **3.354 participants took part in 65 programme activities** (study sessions, training courses, consultative meetings, seminars, forums) of the Youth Department, either in the two European Youth Centres or in member states. Among them, 2.546 participants attended activities at the European Youth Centres (1.087 participants at the European Youth Centre Strasbourg and 1.459 participants at the European Youth Centre Budapest).

■ Within this framework, the Education, Training and Co-operation Division co-organised with partner organisations 29 study sessions, representing a significant share of the annual programme of activities of the Youth Department. Of these, 10 study sessions (34%) were held in Strasbourg and 19 study sessions (66%) in Budapest, bringing together a total of 916 participants, with an average of approximately 32 participants per study session.

■ Additionally, six [Compass National Training Courses on Human Rights Education](#) were co-organised with partner organisations in Moldova, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Ukraine and the United Kingdom, involving a total of 181 participants (around 30 participants per course). A further Regional Compass Training for French-speaking partners gathered 32 participants at the European Youth Centre Strasbourg.

■ Overall, these figures highlight a strong level of engagement across multiple formats and thematic priorities, with an average of 51 participants per activity. Beyond those individual participants, it is essential to also consider their role as multipliers in conveying Council of Europe instruments and resources to their networks and communities.

2025 Programme highlights

Youth Peace Camp 2025 (1-9 July 2025)

■ Early July, the European Youth Centre Strasbourg hosted the [Youth Peace Camp 2025](#), bringing together 55 young participants from conflict-affected regions, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus (Greek-speaking and Turkish-speaking communities), Kosovo* (focusing on Albanian-speaking and Serbian-speaking communities), South Caucasus (particularly conflict-affected regions and ethnic communities), and both banks of the river Nistru/Dniester.

■ During the camp, the participants followed an experiential learning process and acquired competences in the fields of peacebuilding, intercultural learning, dialogue and conflict transformation, within a human rights framework. The Youth Peace Camp's unique approach is the possibility for young people to better understand conflicts and their transformation by listening to and living together with young people from "the other side" of conflicts or affected by other conflicts elsewhere. Over eight dynamic days, participants explored the Council of Europe's peace-promoting mechanisms, including

* All references to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations' Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.



Youth Peace Camp 2025

the [European Court of Human Rights](#), the [European Youth Foundation](#) and the [Youth Department](#), while designing initiatives as peer leaders and multipliers for intercultural dialogue and conflict transformation.

■ The Youth Peace Camp was organised by the Council of Europe Youth Department with the support of the Directorate of Political Affairs and External Relations and of the Cyprus Youth Board in the framework of Presidency of Malta.

“Youth Decide – Youth Act” – Human Rights Education Training Course in Moldova (20-24 October 2025)

■ From 20 to 24 October 2025, over 50 Moldovan teachers and youth workers gathered in Holercani for the **Compass National Training Course on Human Rights Education “Youth Decide – Youth Act”**. This training course is one of the seven Compass training courses which took place in 2025.

■ The course aimed to strengthen the provision and quality of human rights education in the Republic of Moldova by developing the skills of teachers and youth workers to act as multipliers of human rights education among pupils and youth, thus promoting the implementation of the [Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education](#).

■ During the 5-day programme, participants explored and practiced human rights education and non-formal learning methods based on the Council of Europe educational resource [Compass: Manual for Human Rights Education with Young People](#). Based on an interactive and experiential learning process, it is aimed at developing skills that support participants in promoting positive change in their schools, organisations and communities.

■ The training course was organised by the [National Youth Agency](#), together with the [Ministry of Education and Research](#), in co-operation with the Council of Europe Youth Department within the Youth for Democracy programme.



Members of the Youth delegation at the WFD 2025

Youth Delegation at the World Forum for Democracy (5-7 November 2025)

■ Under the theme “**Democracy at risk: how can we revive it?**”, the 13th edition of the [World Forum for Democracy](#) took place from **5 to 7 November 2025**.

■ The 50 young leaders forming the **Youth Delegation** to the event actively engaged in providing a youth perspective and meaningful youth participation in all sessions. They highlighted the pressing threats to democratic resilience, including the decline in institutional trust, the rise of AI-based disinformation, and the weakening of institutional checks and balances due to populist and autocratic pressures.

■ The event contributed to the [New Democratic Pact for Europe](#).

■ As democracy faces significant challenges, the World Forum for Democracy places young people at its core, both empowering and being empowered by the current generations to revive, rethink, and reimagine the democratic landscape of the World.

The new **website of [Compasito](#)**, the Council of Europe’s manual on human rights education for children, was launched in November. Modelled on [Compass](#), the manual for human rights education with young people, Compasito and its activities are designed for children aged 5 to 13. It aims to develop in children the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes they need to participate in their society, fully aware of their rights and those of others and able to protect them. Children are then likely to play an active role in building a culture of human rights!



European Youth Centre Strasbourg

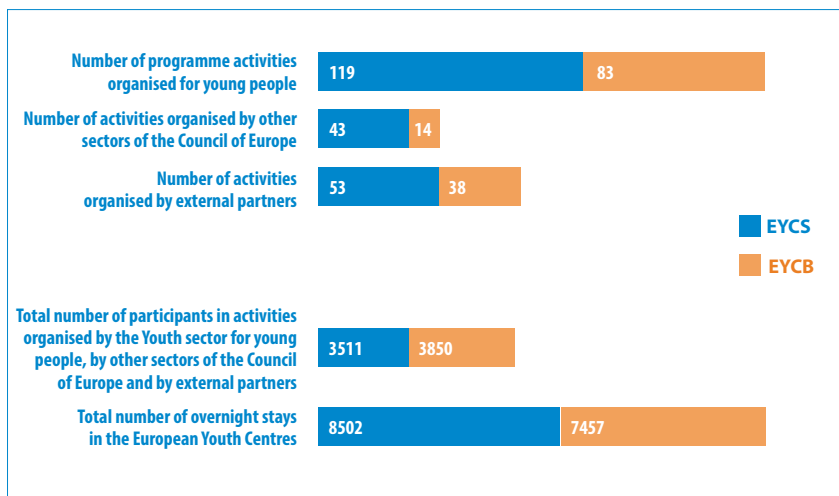
3/ European Youth Centres in Strasbourg and Budapest

The European Youth Centres are part of the Youth Department and play a key role in the Council of Europe's youth policy. They are international residential centres for training and meetings, based in Budapest and Strasbourg, hosting the majority of activities of the youth sector.

■ In 2025, the two European Youth Centres together hosted 202 activities of the Council of Europe youth programme, 57 activities from other Council of Europe sectors and 91 activities organised by external partners. In total, 7,361 participants were hosted in the European Youth Centres.



European Youth Centre Budapest



■ The satisfaction rate with the quality of services provided by the two centres was 90%, based on the returned evaluations from guests and participants.

■ The European Youth Centres regularly host information visits for study groups, students, representatives of Permanent Representations and the international community, journalists and other interested groups. In 2025, 58 such visits were organised for 1,147 visitors by the two centres.

Centres' highlight visits and events were:

20 June 2025 – European Youth Centre Budapest



Anti-Disinformation event in parallel with the Council of Europe Hackathon

The EYCB hosted a satellite event to the 'Outsmart Disinformation, Protect Free Speech' Council of Europe Hackathon, organised under the initiative of Secretary General Alain Berset as part of the [New Democratic Pact for Europe](#). The satellite event ran in parallel with the main [Hackathon](#) and was organised in collaboration with ELTE University and GYIÖT (Federation of Children's and Youth Municipal Councils).

25 June 2025 – European Youth Centre Budapest



The Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights Visits the European Youth Centre Budapest

The Council of Europe [Commissioner for Human Rights](#), Michael O'Flaherty, visited the European Youth Centre Budapest on 25 June as part of his visit to Hungary. During his visit to the youth centre, O'Flaherty was received by EYCB Deputy Director Marcos Andrade and Educational Advisor Ida Kreutzman.

18 September 2025 – European Youth Centre Budapest



Roundtable on Deliberative Democracy

■ The roundtable, co-organised by the Council of Europe and the Embassy of Ireland in co-operation with DemNet, launched the series “*Strengthening Democratic Resilience through Youth Engagement and Deliberative Democracy*”. It featured contributions from the Chief Executive of the Irish Electoral Commission, Art O’Leary, Hungarian mayors Gergely Őrsi (Budapest II. District) and László Csőzik (Érd) who have organised deliberative processes in their constituencies. Over the next two years, the initiative will aim to explore how citizens’ assemblies and other deliberative processes can provide inspiration, guidance and tools to renew democracy across Europe – with young people as active co-creators of a stable and democratic future.

23 September 2025 – European Youth Centre Strasbourg



Open Day at the European Youth Centre Strasbourg

■ In 2025, the European Youth Centre Strasbourg (EYCS) reaffirmed its role as a cornerstone of youth engagement and European citizenship — notably during the European Heritage Days on 20 September. Through guided tours, information stands and exchanges with staff, visitors explored the Centre’s modern architectural heritage and its institutional mission.

3 November 2025 – European Youth Centre Strasbourg



Inauguration of the Malta Lounge

■ The thousands of young people from across the continent who come to the European Youth Centre Strasbourg each year for youth-sector meetings, courses and study sessions have a new space in which to learn, share ideas and reflect: the Malta Lounge. The space has been supported and refurbished as part of Malta’s Presidency of the Committee of Ministers and is designed as welcoming and inclusive, to inspire creativity and collaboration. The Malta Lounge was inaugurated by the President of Malta, Her Excellency Myriam Spiteri Debono, and Council of Europe Deputy Secretary General, Bjørn Berge.

Quality Label for Youth Centres Programme

■ Launched in 2008, the [Quality Label for Youth Centres](#) programme connects European youth centres with the Council of Europe’s youth work and policies, enabling centres with shared goals to collaborate across borders.

■ Quality Label youth centres serve as democracy hubs, strengthening youth participation and empowerment through democratic citizenship and human rights education. They equip young people with knowledge and skills to advocate for human rights, promote diversity and inclusion, and contribute to peaceful societies.

2025 Achievements

■ Network Growth: The European Youth Education Centre Magdeburg (EJBM) received the Quality Label, expanding the network to 15 centres. Exploratory visits were also held at the European Palermo Youth Centre (EPYC) and at two centres in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which have demonstrated growing interest in the label and have actively participated in the QL Network's bilateral and multilateral activities.

■ The Quality Label youth centre network was very active in preparing for the 4th European Youth Work Convention, which was held under the Maltese Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. A large delegation from the network attended the event, presenting the priorities of youth spaces and youth centres in the context of strengthening youth work.

European Youth Centres Strategic Collaboration:

■ Organised in co-operation with the Luxembourgish National Youth Service (SNJ) under the auspices of Luxembourg's Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, the 16th European Platform for Youth Centres – titled “European Platform Meeting for Quality Label Youth Centres and Friends” – took place in an expanded format. This offered the unique opportunity to engage a wider audience and promote the Quality Label for Youth Centres programme beyond the existing network. This high-level event also included the participation of the Grand Duke of Luxembourg and resulted in the adoption of the [Marienthal Statement on Quality Youth Spaces](#). The statement reaffirms the centres' commitment to Council of Europe values and reinforces the network's determination to promote safe youth spaces for participation, backed by solid educational methods and purpose, and to act as relevant hubs for democracy.

Professional development:

■ The second Educational Forum for the pedagogical staff of Quality Label and candidate centres focused on strengthening youth participation in the face of challenges to democracy. Held in Magdeburg, the Forum provided an opportunity to translate the Marienthal Statement into educational priorities and practices.



Marcos Dorneles for WSCF-E

4/ European Youth Foundation

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) fosters co-operation among young people across Europe by financing initiatives that encourage peace, mutual understanding, and collaboration among people in Europe and beyond, grounded in respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It supports international and national youth organisations, networks, and other non-governmental groups whose work aligns with the Council of Europe's youth policy.

Grants

■ The Foundation awarded grants to **97 youth projects**¹ that were implemented during 2025, with a total funding allocation of **€2 713 348**. These projects were led by local, national, and international youth non-governmental organisations. In addition, the Foundation awarded **32 Structural grants** to international youth organisations and networks and one integrated grant to the European Youth Forum, with a total allocation of **€894,132**. **In total, €3 607 480** was allocated for EYF grants to youth organisations across Europe in 2025 for **initiatives of a multilateral nature promoting democracy and human rights**.

■ The EYF specifically supported activities initiated and implemented by youth-led civil society organisations, whose projects were aligned with the priorities of the Council of Europe youth sector, thus ensuring the sustainability of these organisations and enabling young people to play an active and lasting role in promoting the Organisation's values, principles, and priorities among young people across Europe. The full list of awarded projects, addressing a wide range of themes, is available on the [EYF website](#). In 2025, the European Youth Foundation continued, as part of its core mission to support youth organisations in promoting youth engagement in political processes at local and national levels. A notable achievement in this area was the presentation of outcomes from an EYF-funded project by a youth non-governmental organisation at side events of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, [showcasing research](#) on the mental well-being of young politicians.

Reform

■ In 2025, the European Youth Foundation reached a major milestone in its reform process, which began in 2022, aimed at making the Foundation more flexible, transparent and responsive to the realities of youth organisations across Europe, in line with the commitments set out in the Reykjavik Declaration. The reform is a result of multiple consultations with EYF beneficiaries and representatives from the youth organisations with a main objective to ensure that the EYF remains a key instrument of the Council of Europe's youth sector—supporting youth civil society while adapting to evolving needs and challenges.

■ **On 24 September 2025**, at their 1538th meeting, the **Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted the revised Operational Regulations of the European Youth Foundation**, which entered into force

1. 28 Annual work plans (€1,520,510); 33 International activities (€699,035) including Special call for Ukraine; 36 Pilot activities including Special call for Ukraine (€493,803)

three months later, **on 24 December 2025**. Consequently, the new Operational Regulations are prompting updates to the Foundation's online application and reporting system, and its working methods will be adjusted to align with the new grant-making procedures, which will be the focus for the Foundation's work in 2026. This also concerns the development of a new grant-management system to make the grant-making process more intuitive and modern, as well as more secure and user-friendly for applicants and beneficiaries. Another priority in the coming year will be to enhance EYF working methods to strengthen partnership building with and support to youth organisations throughout all stages of the granting process, while also improving mechanisms for gathering and channelling youth perspectives back to the Council of Europe.

Ukraine

■ Since the launch of the Special Call in Support of Young People from Ukraine in 2022, 58 projects have been awarded by the Foundation, for a total amount of €913 063, involving 4 161 people (total number of direct beneficiaries). In 2025, the Foundation supported **13 projects for the amount of €231 700**. Four of these projects were coordinated by Ukrainian civil society organisations and nine by organisations from other Council of Europe member States. Due to high interest and exhaustion of available funds, the Special Call was suspended in July 2025, with the aim of resuming it in 2026 once the new IT grant management system will become operational. The year 2025 also marked the 30th anniversary of Ukraine's membership in the Council of Europe, reflecting three decades of shared commitment to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. On this occasion, the European Youth Foundation, in co-operation with the Permanent Representation of Ukraine to the Council of Europe, organised an exhibition showcasing projects supported under the Special call for Ukraine. The exhibition presented a selection of 15 initiatives, highlighting the experiences of young people who, despite adversity, fostered connection and positive change. The exhibition was displayed at the [Palais](#) and the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg and was also featured at the [2025 Lviv European Youth Capital](#) closing ceremony and the European Youth Centre in Budapest during the [Human Rights Education Forum](#).

■ In addition, in March 2025, the European Youth Foundation organised an online seminar with the Ukrainian Youth Foundation to exchange experiences on donor practices, procedures, and standards for supporting youth civil society, as well as to explore opportunities for co-operation and identify potential solutions in the context of the war in Ukraine.



*European Platform Meeting for Quality Label Youth Centres, Luxembourg, 6-7 May 2025,
photo Mathilde Magne*

5/ Co-operation projects

Alongside its Youth for Democracy Programme, the Youth Department engages in bilateral co-operation with a number of member states within the framework of Council of Europe country action plans and other bilateral partnerships.

■ In 2025, the Youth Department's country-specific portfolio expanded to include projects to support young people's access to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment **in Azerbaijan**, as well as youth participation in decision-making processes, youth work, and youth centres as platforms of civic activity and democratic participation **in the Republic of Moldova**.

■ These initiatives complement the flagship country-specific co-operation with **Ukraine** through the project "**Youth for Democracy in Ukraine**," whose fourth phase was launched in April 2025. This project focuses on strengthening participatory youth policies and reinforcing youth work in the war and in a post-war context, responding to the specific needs of young people.

■ Additionally, the Youth Department continued to support **Belarusian youth civil society** and activists for democracy in playing an active role in revitalising democracy and introducing youth perspectives to policy discussions towards Belarus. Strategic dialogue between young Belarusians and decision-makers, including the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, and Belarusian democratic forces, provided valuable lessons about the challenges faced by young human rights defenders fighting autocratic regimes and working in exile.

Since April 1997, the Council of Europe maintains a [Partnership Agreement with the European Youth Information and Counselling Agency \(ERYICA\)](#) to promote and develop European co-operation in Youth Information and counselling. In November 2025, youth climate activists, the participants of the joint Council of Europe and ERYICA seminar “[Equipping Youth with Skills for Climate Action: Youth Engagement and Effective Information Sharing](#)” worked on the understanding the new Council of Europe Recommendation on Young People and Climate Action and on effective strategies on its implementation, as well as explored efficient and innovative methods and tools for effective information provision, in order to promote further engagement of young people in climate action.

Council of Europe youth sector's co-operation in support of Ukraine

■ The long-standing co-operation of the Council of Europe and the authorities responsible for youth in Ukraine is being reinforced in the context of a Framework Programme, and the technical assistance project “[Youth for Democracy in Ukraine](#)”, a part of the Action Plan for Ukraine. Following the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine, co-operation with the Ukrainian youth sector was significantly expanded and adapted to respond to the urgent and evolving needs of young people during the war and in the post-war recovery period.

■ The Council of Europe and the Ministry of Youth and Sports strengthened their partnership, initiated in 2012, by signing a new [Framework Programme for Co-operation in the Field of Youth Policy \(2026–2030\)](#). A training seminar on access to quality youth work and non-formal education, along with a study visit to the Council of Europe, continued supporting youth workers in Ukraine, as well as those working directly with Ukrainian young people across different member states, and strengthening practitioners' motivation and competencies to respond to challenges caused by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

■ A series of activities in support of Ukraine continued to create space for key youth policy stakeholders and youth workers to identify needs and actions for developing inclusive youth policies and anchoring youth perspectives in decision-making processes in the context of Ukraine's recovery efforts.

■ Ukrainian youth also contributed to the revision of the European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life during the European Youth Conference in Braga, ahead of its adoption in October 2025 by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe.

■ Focus on youth-relevant issues and solidarity with Ukraine throughout Europe was maintained by facilitating co-operation between Ukrainian youth and international youth organisations, including in the context of Lviv- European Youth Capital 2025, a major European youth civil society initiative.

■ Within the project "Youth for Democracy in Ukraine", part of the Action Plan for Ukraine, 259 public servants strengthened competencies on participatory youth policies. The [2nd Collection on Youth Work in Times of War](#) was published, featuring twenty-three youth worker testimonies alongside a revised manual on human rights and trauma-informed youth work. A new university course on youth policy and youth work was developed in partnership with NGO "Youth Platform" and UNICEF to support universities in Ukraine. Youth workers from nine youth centres in Ukraine were trained on practices and approaches of youth centres awarded the Council of Europe Quality Label through participation in key annual activities and peer-to-peer visits to youth centres in Luxembourg, Germany, and Belgium.

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card

■ Established in 1991 following the Council of Europe's Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth in Lisbon, this [Partial Agreement](#) promotes youth mobility between East and West. It enables member governments and the [European Youth Card Association-EYCA](#) organisations to collaborate on improved mobility solutions for young people.

2025 Programme priorities

■ Aligned with the Council of Europe's Youth Sector priorities (2024-2027), the work programme reflected the need to engage young people in policy-making and public discussions, in line with a youth perspective currently implemented through all the programmes of the Council of Europe, following the Reykjavik

Declaration, the conclusions of the 10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth, as well as the New Democratic Pact for Europe.

Key 2025 events

■ In 2025, the Partial Agreement reviewed its work from 2013 to 2025 through **dedicated research**, presenting the findings at a **working breakfast** during the Ministerial Conference in October. The event also opened discussions on new perspectives for youth mobility in present-day Europe. Earlier in March, a workshop at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg brought together **representatives of several Partial Agreements**, youth organisations, and governments to explore how the European Youth Card can be better used as a tool to support youth mobility and access to rights.

■ The Partial Agreement also participated in a **roundtable on women's health and sport** organised by EPAS for International Women's Day, linking youth mobility to broader issues such as gender equality and well-being. Building on co-operation with the Pompidou Group, the Partial Agreement and EYCA enabled a young changemaker from the EYCA MoreIn24 project to join the youth jury for the 2025 Prevention Prize, ensuring meaningful youth participation in decision-making processes.



EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership

6/ Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth

The Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth (EU-CoE Youth Partnership) fosters synergies between the priorities and programmes pursued by the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the youth field.

Research, publications, and knowledge production

■ In 2025, the Youth Partnership continued to produce research and knowledge resources on the issues most present in debates across the youth sector. On **youth work development**, the [Youth Work Strategy Manual](#), the [Youth Work Quality Tools](#) and the Growing Youth Work in Europe ([mapping study](#) and [methodology](#)) work supported follow-up to the European Youth Work Agenda by combining practical guidance with evidence on how youth work ecosystems are developing; 11 articles were published in [Coyote Youth Work Magazine](#) in 2025 on the 4th European Youth Work Convention.

■ On **youth participation, democracy and civic space**, the Youth Partnership contributed evidence on participation trends and on **youth mainstreaming and youth perspective(s)**, comparative work looked at how different countries and institutions integrate youth realities more structurally into policymaking, drawing on [international](#), [national](#) and [local](#) examples.

■ A strong focus in 2025 was placed on **young people's mental health and well-being**, building on the [Perspectives on Youth seminar](#) and [Advancing Youth Mental Health and Well-being](#).

Online learning and capacity building

■ Online learning remained a key pillar of the Youth Partnership's work in 2025, with three MOOCs offered: [Youth Policy Essentials](#), [Youth Work Essentials](#) and [Youth Research Essentials](#). The latter two were updated to reflect evolving needs and new developments in the sector.

■ In addition, **four online masterclasses** were organised during the year, complementing self-paced learning with interactive exchanges on topics such as youth research and evidence-based policymaking, youth work values and ethics, and project management. Three of the four **masterclasses gathered more than 100 participants**, and **146 participants enrolled in Youth Partnership online courses in 2025**, supporting access to structured learning and professional development across the European youth sector.

Highlight events in 2025

■ Beyond the 4th European Youth Work Convention (see *section 7 Conferences and Events*), two thematic events stood out as key moments of exchange and reflection in 2025.

■ The [Perspectives on Youth Seminar on Young People's Mental Health and Well-being](#), held on **18-19 March 2025** at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg, gathered **45 participants** from across Europe. Youth workers, researchers, policymakers, and young people explored how the youth sector is responding to the mental health needs of young people, shared views on available services, professional competences, and the challenges posed by overlapping issues such as socio-economic precarity, climate anxiety, and digitalisation. The seminar directly informed the publication of the report [Advancing Youth Mental Health and Well-being](#), which maps policies, services, and support frameworks across Europe.

■ Later in the year, the conference "[Youth Perspectives in Contemporary Europe: New Tasks for Research and Policy](#)", held on **20-21 October 2025** in Brussels, brought together **53 participants** representing European institutions, public authorities, youth organisations, and research networks. The conference provided a space to reflect on young people's realities in a changing Europe and to identify priorities for future research and policymaking, with a particular focus on youth participation, civic space, youth mainstreaming and youth perspectives, access to rights and services, and the role of youth research in informing policy and practice.



4th European Youth Work Convention, Malta, 27-30 May 2025

7 / Conferences and events

On the next pages, you may find the summary of four major 2025 events. The full list of training courses and study sessions, as well as other activities is available in Appendix I.

5-7 February 2025, Braga, Portugal



European Youth Conference “Young people in local and regional life: Democracy in action!”

■ Young people’s role in renewing democracy at the local and regional levels is crucial and youth perspectives need to be at the heart of decision-making in cities, municipalities, and regions.

■ These were the main messages of the **European Youth Conference “Young people in local and regional life: Democracy in action!”** held in Braga from 5 to 7 February. It brought together around 150 youth leaders and representatives of local and regional authorities from 42 countries of Europe.

■ The participants of the conference shared ideas on how to best **revise the European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life** so that the needs of younger generations are addressed.

■ The participants called for clear governance structures with defined responsibilities, ensuring youth participation in implementation, monitoring, and accountability, including consequences for non-compliance. They also emphasised the need for greater inclusivity of marginalised groups, clearer implementation guidelines, accessible language, and stronger directives, while addressing funding responsibilities.

■ Visibility and awareness raised through digital campaigns were also underlined as an important point for improvement of youth participation in local decision-making. Young people need to be better informed about the Charter and the rights they have, thus communication about those through digital channels is crucial.

■ Over the three days, the participants had the chance to exchange experiences and best practices on democratic participation, challenges, opportunities,

and practical strategies for strengthening youth participation in decision-making. They also got a chance to see what youth participation looks like in Braga – the most youthful city of Portugal, to learn from local initiatives, and leave with fresh inspiration and practical strategies to strengthen youth engagement back home.

■ The photo exhibition “*Between Light and Darkness*”, featuring photographs by Konstantin and Vlad Liberovih and Yurka Dyachyshyn, was opened in the city of Braga and representatives of Lviv – European Youth Capital 2025 were also guests in the conference.

■ The conference was co-organised by the [Council of Europe Youth Department](#) and the [Braga Youth Centre](#), and in partnership with the [Congress of Local and Regional Authorities](#), the [Municipality of Braga](#), the [Portuguese Institute for Sports and Youth](#) and the [European Youth Forum](#).

28-29 May 2025, Valletta, Malta



4th European Youth Work Convention

■ The **4th European Youth Work Convention**, the largest and most significant gathering of its kind in Europe, brought together over 600 participants from across Europe and beyond, all committed to shaping the future of youth work over the next five years. The programme combined plenary sessions, 15 thematic workshops addressing key dimensions of youth work – youth work core, youth work environments, and youth work systems – alongside 30 practitioner-led workshops showcasing inspiring practices and initiatives at local, national, and European levels.

■ The Convention’s Conclusions Report and roadmap consolidate the key messages and priority actions identified by the European youth work community of practice. They are intended to guide youth work development

across Europe over the next five years and inform co-operation between the Council of Europe and the European Commission in the field of youth, in the context of the EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership workplan 2026-2028.

■ It took place in Valletta on 28 and 29 May 2025, and it was hosted by the Government of Malta through Aġenzija Żgħażaġh and the European Union Programme Agency (EUPA), as part of the Council of Europe Maltese Presidency, and supported by the EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership.

8-9 October 2025



10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth: Young People for Democracy: Youth Perspectives in Action

■ Ministers, youth representatives and institutional partners met in Malta for the **10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth**, reaffirming that Europe's democratic renewal depends on genuine intergenerational partnership.

■ Held under the theme *“Young people for democracy: youth perspectives in action”*, the conference concluded with the adoption of two milestone documents: a **Declaration** and a Resolution on the **Council of Europe Reference Framework on a Youth Perspective**

■ Opening the conference, **Secretary General Alain Berset** called for a bridge between generations and a renewed commitment to youth participation. *“Youth must be present in everything we do,” he said. “We need to build a bridge across the gap between generations that threatens to pull us apart – this is why we must genuinely listen to young people, setting aside our prejudices – and even some of our own experiences. Young people are disillusioned with democracy. This is a wake-up call.”*

■ He reminded participants that the **New Democratic Pact for Europe** seeks *“to strengthen the foundations of democracy, restore trust, and make it meaningful for the next generation.”*

■ The conference in Malta highlighted youth participation as a cornerstone of democratic renewal in Europe. Malta’s Minister for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation, Clifton Grima, reaffirmed Malta’s strong engagement with the Council of Europe’s youth sector and stressed the importance of empowering young people to shape Europe’s future.

■ Nina Grmuša, Chair of the Advisory Council on Youth, stressed that youth participation is a democratic necessity rather than a symbolic gesture. She highlighted co-management as a core value of the Council of Europe and presented the Reference Framework on a Youth Perspective as a key tool to ensure young people are meaningfully involved in decision-making at all levels.

■ The President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Theodoros Rousopoulos, underlined the role of youth participation, education, and inclusion in sustaining democratic life and guiding future policies across member states.

■ Marc Cools, President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, emphasised that meaningful youth participation begins at the local level, where young people most directly engage with and contribute to their communities.

■ The President of the European Youth Forum, Rares Voicu, and the Rector of the College of Europe, Federica Mogherini, highlighted the role of youth work and youth engagement in reinforcing European integration and democratic values.

■ Together, the ministers reaffirmed a shared commitment to embedding youth perspectives across the work of the Council of Europe and its member states, concluding with the adoption of key policy documents aimed at strengthening democracy through youth participation.

■ The Ministerial conference was preceded by the **Youth Event that took place** on 6-8 October and brought together over 80 young leaders, national youth delegates, and representatives of youth organisations from across Europe. Over two days, participants exchanged ideas, crafted proposals, and built partnerships to strengthen young people’s role in democratic renewal. The event set the stage for the 10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for youth and contributed to the consultation process under the New Democratic Pact for Europe.

■ The participants worked on proposals to strengthen democratic learning, protect democratic institutions and rights, and renew democratic participation in response to current challenges. Discussions were enriched by Theodoros Rousopoulos, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), and Despina Chatzivassiliou, Secretary General of PACE, who addressed how to further integrate a youth perspective into the Assembly's work.

■ Council of Europe Secretary General Alain Berset highlighted the urgency of democratic renewal and stressed the central role of young people in the New Democratic Pact for Europe, emphasising the need to rebuild trust and make democracy more relevant to everyday life.

■ Youth delegates also exchanged views with Naomi Cachia, PACE Youth Rapporteur, and Veronique Bertholle, thematic spokesperson on youth at the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities.

9-11 December 2025, European Youth Centre Budapest



Human Rights Education Forum: Unleashing Human Rights

■ The **Human Rights Education Forum: Unleashing Human Rights** took place in Budapest between 9 and 11 December and brought together participants from around the world to exchange ideas, share experiences, and strengthen their work for the years ahead. The Forum came at a time when human rights are under unprecedented pressure worldwide, making collective thinking, dialogue, and action more essential than ever. Co-organised by the Council of Europe and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, with non-governmental partners including Amnesty International and the European Youth Forum, the Forum welcomed **over 200 participants** from all regions of the world. They included young multipliers and activists, education professionals from formal and non-formal sectors, government representatives and youth leaders from civil society organisations.

■ Over three days, the Forum focused on major threats to human rights and human rights education such as democratic backsliding, shrinking civic space, armed conflicts, or inequality.

■ The Forum showcased young educators, activists and practitioners as drivers of innovation; their experiences and priorities shape the future of human rights education. Panel discussions, working groups and workshops explored how human rights education can respond to today's crises and empower young people to build a culture of peace.

■ Also marking Human Rights Day on 10 December, the Forum underlined the role of human rights education in building a fairer future and demonstrates how co-ordinated action can strengthen an ecosystem capable of addressing emerging challenges while building on decades of achievement, for more democratic resilience.



8/ Information and communication

The Youth Department is using various social media platforms and other digital channels to reach its main audiences and to showcase the activities and developments in the Council of Europe youth sector.

■ The **youth portal** is the main hub of information about Council of Europe youth sector. It has large number of visitors every month and very well-established audience – the portal received **314,059** visits in 2025. Besides the youth portal, there are **several websites** covering youth themes, handled by the youth teams. Among those, the most visited ones are **Compass** (with 1,307,988 visits in 2025) and **Gender Matters** (with 589,958 visits).

■ Interested audiences can sign up for the [Think Youth newsletter](#), issued every month. This tool allows the Youth Department to communicate the upcoming events, activities and calls for participants, and also to make an overview of the events that marked the previous month. On average, in 2025, Think Youth has been delivered to an average of 7,425 recipients and has reached an opening rate of 39%.

■ Our various **social media** platforms have become important channels of communication, especially with young people. The two main channels used by the Youth Department are [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#). On 29 September 2025, the Department has launched the Council of Europe affiliate page "[Youth at the Council of Europe](#)". In the three months of 2025, the page has gained 1,245 followers through organic reach and posts, showing constant increase in number of followers, engagement and reach.

■ The most popular social media posts for the Youth Department's channels continue to be calls for participants (activities, training courses, seminars), photo albums, interviews and videos of key flagship events.

■ The **Instagram** account has a large and growing audience (cca 15,000 followers), which can be attributed to the wide use of Instagram among its target audience (18-35 years olds). Number of followers was increased by 72% since 2024.

■ In 2025, the content shared through Instagram was viewed 1,175,400 times (more than double than in 2024, making an increase of 122%), and the reach has increased by 89% compared to 2024. There have been 19,622 interactions with the content (an increase of 37%) and the profile has received 36,913 visits.

■ The **Facebook** page continues to be the most popular and effective means to share call for participants, tenders and job advertisements.

■ Facebook youth content was viewed 617,248 times in 2025. Interaction of Facebook users with the content shared has increased by 58,7% and 29,730 visitors have visited the Facebook page (0.2% increase). The page had cca 25,000 followers by the end of 2025, out of which 2,421 were gained during 2025.

■ **LinkedIn** page has only started gaining its audience in the last quarter of 2025 and it has had a good organic growth. In the period October-December 2025, the page has gained 52,203 impressions and LinkedIn users have interacted 2,062 times with the 72 posts. The page has gained 1474 followers in that period.

■ In 2025, the **Youth Partnership's** digital content reached wide and diverse audiences across platforms. On [Instagram](#), content generated **298.169 views**, reaching **50.925 accounts**, while [Facebook](#) content reached **112.818 views**. On

[LinkedIn](#), the Youth Partnership recorded **129.785 impressions**, confirming its role as a key channel for professional outreach to policymakers, practitioners, and institutional partners. Youth Partnership videos on [YouTube](#) recorded **14.748 views** during the year.

■ The [Under 30' podcast series](#) remained a central communication and knowledge-transfer tool in 2025. A total of **11 new episodes** were released, covering topics such as youth work development, youth participation and shrinking civic space, mental health and well-being, rural youth transitions, youth mainstreaming, youth mobility, and reflections on the 4th European Youth Work Convention. The series recorded **1.753 downloads** during the year, extending the reach of Youth Partnership research and debates beyond formal events and publications.

Appendix I

List of activities in 2025

Study sessions (in chronological order)

3-7 February

United for an active youth participation – Removing barriers for an inclusive and diverse Europe

Organised in co-operation with The World Esperanto Youth Organisation (TEJO), European Youth Centre Budapest

3-7 February

New Trends in International Voluntary Service

Organised in co-operation with the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS), European Youth Centre Budapest

17-21 February

Digital citizenship for health: Empowering young people to co-create tools and innovate solutions

Organised in co-operation with Digital Transformations for Health Lab (DTH-Lab) and Youth Health Organisation (YHO), European Youth Centre Budapest

17-21 February

Student Voices Amplified: navigating education, rights and advocacy

Organised in co-operation with Forum of European Muslim Youth and Student Organisations (FEMYSO), European Youth Centre Budapest

3-7 March

Map the Chart: advancing students' rights by establishing national student rights charters

Organised in co-operation with the European Students' Union (ESU), European Youth Centre Strasbourg

3-7 March

Pieces of Peace: Building capacity with Youth navigating conflict

Organised in co-operation with the World Organisation of Scout Movement – European Support Centre (WOSM), European Youth Centre Budapest

3-7 March

Youth in leadership today: the pathway forward

Organised in co-operation with the World Student Christian Federation – Europe (WSCF-E), European Youth Centre Budapest

17-21 March

Rural advocacy: Building skills and empowering change-makers across rural Europe

Organised in co-operation with Rural Youth Europe (RYE), European Youth Centre Budapest

17-21 March

CYBER ACTIVISTS: Understanding digital rights in the artificial intelligence era

Organised in co-operation with the Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions (OBESSU), European Youth Centre Budapest

24-28 March

WE too: Workcamp Equality too! Creating a safer and more encouraging international youth work for LGBTQI+ youth

Organised in co-operation with the Alliance of European Voluntary Service Network, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

5-9 May

Regenerate (YOU)th: cultivating circular economy solutions in youth work

Organised in co-operation with the AEGEE-Europe, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

5-9 May

Empowering change: Advancing gender equality and peacebuilding in Europe

Organised in co-operation with the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), European Youth Centre Budapest

5-10 May

Our voices: misinformation and debate in a pluralistic world

Organised in co-operation with the International Falcon Movement – Socialist Education International (IFM-SEI), European Youth Centre Strasbourg

19-23 May

Integration of young migrants and refugees

Organised in co-operation with the Youth Social Rights Network, with the support of the I-PARTICIPATE NGO (Greece), European Youth Centre Strasbourg

19-24 May

Tales of transformation: empowering youth leaders through ethical storytelling

Organised in co-operation with the YPAN-Youth Peace Ambassadors Network & the Peace Ambassadors Poland Association (PA Poland), European Youth Centre Strasbourg

19-24 May

Youth actions against discriminations

Organised in co-operation with Erasmus Student Network, European Youth Centre Budapest

23-27 June

Open your AIs: Responsible use of AI tools by youth organisations

Organised in co-operation with the Connect International and Curiosity Centre de Formation, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

1-5 September

Faith in Action: Addressing Climate Change and Strengthening Democracy Through Christian Youth Movements

Organised in co-operation with the Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe and Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women, European Youth Centre Budapest

1-5 September

Uniting for a safer Europe: empowering environmental defenders and climate activists

Organised in co-operation with the Youth and Environment Europe, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

15-19 September

Empowerment in Action: Young Refugees' Journey to Adulthood

Organised in co-operation with Voices of young refugees in Europe, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

22-27 September

From passion to action: A new generation of Roma activists

Organised in co-operation with the European Roma Grassroots Organisations (ERGO) Network and Ternype International Roma Youth Network, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

29 September-3 October

Bridging Generations for a Just Green Transition

Organised in co-operation with the Generation Climate Europe, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

29 September-4 October

Canvas of Change: Youth, Culture, and Political Participation

Organised in co-operation with the Co-operation and Development Network Eastern Europe and the Federation of Young European Greens, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

13-17 October

Ending youth homelessness by embracing cultural diversity

Organised in co-operation with FEANTSA Youth, European Youth Centre Budapest

13-18 October

Spark and Sustain: fostering mental well-being and motivation in open youth work

Organised in co-operation with Youth Express Network and the European Confederation of Youth Clubs, European Youth Centre Budapest

27-31 October

Not Your Soldier

Organised in co-operation with Service Civil International, European Youth Centre Budapest

Training courses (in chronological order)

17-22 February

Essentials of international youth activities

European Youth Centre Strasbourg

4-7 April

Nordic training course of youth trainers in human rights education

Organised with the European Wergeland Centre, No Hate Speech Movement Norway and Utøya AS, Utøya, Norway

20-22 May

Interculturalism in Support of Territorial Youth Policies

Organised in co-operation with the French Ministry of Sports, Youth, and Community Life – Directorate of Youth, Non-Formal Education, and Community Life, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

8-13 June

Barrier-free environment in the youth sector

Organised in co-operation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine and the All-Ukrainian Youth Centre, Lviv, Ukraine

17-21 June

Artificial intelligence, human rights and democracy, European Youth Centre Budapest

21-25 July

Human Rights Education in formal, non-formal and informal settings

Organised in co-operation with the Centre for Educational Initiatives (CEI), the Donetsk Youth Debate Centre and the European Wergeland Centre, Lviv, Ukraine

13-19 September

Training course for Romanian-speaking Youth Trainers on Human Rights Education

Organised in co-operation with the Timis County Youth Foundation (FITT) together with the Romanian National Youth Foundation (FNT), Timisoara, Romania

16-19 September

Barrier-free environment in the youth sector

Organised in partnership with the All-Ukrainian Youth Centre and the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, Lviv, Ukraine

28 September-4 October

Human rights on the right Compass

Organised in partnership with the Lisbon Youth Centre and Associação para a igualdade AEQUALITAS, Lisbon, Portugal

12-17 October

Participatory youth policy

Organised in co-operation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, Lviv, Ukraine

20-24 October

Youth Decide – Youth Act

Organised in co-operation with the National Youth Agency and the Ministry of Education and Research, Holercani, Republic of Moldova

20-24 October

REPERES-the French-language regional training course on human rights education for young people

Organised in co-operation with the Department of Youth, Non-Formal Education, and Voluntary organisations (DJEPVA) within the French Ministry of Sport, Youth and Community Life, and the International Institute for Human Rights and Peace, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

27-31 October

Human Rights Passwords

Organised in partnership with Newham Borough, the Network of Human Rights Educators and AICEM UK, London, United Kingdom

24-28 November

Training course for young people on Council of Europe approaches in the youth sector

Organised in co-operation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Association of Youth Councils, Lviv, Ukraine

Consultative meetings, symposia, conferences, meetings and monitoring visits (in chronological order)

13 January

Kick-off meeting with international youth organisations and networks to launch the call for European Youth Foundation grants for international youth co-operation projects in 2025

Online

20 January

6th meeting of the Group of Senior Officials for the preparation of the 10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth

Online

21-22 January

Meeting of the Joint Council on Youth Working Group on the Youth Perspective Framework

European Youth Centre Strasbourg

22-23 January

Consultative meeting *How Confident? Artificial Intelligence, Young People and Youth Work*

European Youth Centre Strasbourg

5-7 February

Conference *"Young people in local and regional life: Democracy in action!"*

Organised in co-operation with the Braga Youth Centre, and in partnership with the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, the Municipality of Braga, the Portuguese Institute for Sports and Youth and the European Youth Forum Braga, Portugal

17-22 February

Training course *"Essentials of international youth activities"*

European Youth Centre Strasbourg

26-27 February

European Youth Foundation learning and networking days for international youth organisations

Brussels, Belgium

27-28 February

7th meeting of the Group of Senior Officials for the preparation of the 10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth

Valletta, Malta

6 March

European Youth Foundation information session for youth organisations: preparing for 2025 International activities and Annual Workplan grants (in view of 1 April 2025 deadline)

Online

12 March

53rd meeting of the Board of co-ordination of the Partial agreement on Youth mobility through the Youth Card

European Youth Centre Strasbourg/
Online

12-13 March

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit: International activity organised by the Slovak Hungarian Youth Association in partnership with Young European Federalists Hungary, EUnexus from Estonia and MIERT – Magyar Ifjúsági Ertekezlet

Dunajská Streda, Slovak Republic

18 March

8th meeting of the Group of Senior Officials for the preparation of the 10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth

Online

18-19 March

Seminar *“Young people’s mental health and well-being”*

Organised by the CoE-EU Partnership in the field of youth, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

19-20 March

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit: International activity on peace building of the Young European Federalists (JEF)

Derry, United Kingdom

25-26 March

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit: International activity on meaningful youth participation of the NGO International Cultural Youth Exchange (ICYE)

Lystrup, Denmark

31 March

European Youth Foundation capacity-building seminar with the Ukrainian Youth Foundation

Online

3 April

9th meeting of the Group of Senior Officials for the preparation of the 10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth

Online

4 April

European Youth Foundation capacity building seminar with the European Union of the Deaf Youth (EUDY)

Online

5-8 April

Seminar *“Celebrating Roma youth pride, action, and resistance”*

Organised in co-operation with the Council of Europe Roma and

Travellers Division, the European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERIAC), the International Roma Youth Network – TernType and the European Roma Grassroots Organisations (ERGO) Network and Phiren Amenca, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

8-9 April

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit: Work plan “Insight Impact: Addressing Gender Based Violence Globally” of the NGO International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY)

Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

9-12 April

Seminar “*A youth agenda for democracy and human rights in Belarus*”

Organised in co-operation with the Belarusian National Youth Council “RADA” as a part of the Luxembourg Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

11 April

Quality Label for Youth Centres programme, *European Youth Education Centre Magdeburg receives the Quality Label awarded by the Council of Europe*

15-16 April

EYF onsite monitoring visit: Work plan “Minority Youth in the Spotlight” of the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN JEV JC)

Opole, Poland

25-26 April

EYF onsite monitoring visit: Pilot activity “Generation Fair: Vote 16 and Banning Unpaid Internships” of the Youth Council of Slovakia (RmS NYC Slovakia)

Bratislava, Slovak Republic

6 May

Kick-off meeting for European Youth Foundation Pilot activity grants – for youth projects approved following the 1 February 2025 deadline

Online

6-7 May

European Platform Meeting of Quality Label Youth Centres and Friends

Co-organised with the Luxembourgish National Youth Service (SNJ) under the auspices of the Luxembourgish Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, Luxembourg

21-22 May

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit: International activity on Youth Empowerment for Peace: Promoting Intercultural Dialogue and Conflict Transformation” of the Foundation of Subjective Values (FSV)

Budapest, Hungary

28-29 May

4th European Youth Work Convention

Organised by the Government of Malta – Aġenzija Żgħażaġh and the European Union Programme Agency (EUPA) for Malta with the support of the EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership, under the Maltese

Presidency of the Council of Europe's
Committee of Ministers
Valletta, Malta

29-31 May

EYF onsite monitoring visit:

International activity on mental health and politics "Brain Gains & Campaign Trains: Turning tracks to wellness facts" of the International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY)

Berlin, Germany

2-6 June

Training seminar "*Values-Based Youth Work in War Contexts*"

Organised in co-operation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, European Youth Centre Budapest

14-15 June

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit:

Pilot activity project "Diverse Ideas in Debate: Introduction to Active Citizenship" of the European Youth Parliament

Paris, France

19-20 June

Seminar "*Supporting Young Refugees: The Next Chapter*"

Organised in co-operation with PICUM (platform for International Co-operation on Undocumented Migrants), VOICIFY, Voices of Young Refugees in Europe (VYRE), the Youth Social Rights Network (YSRN) and the Council of Europe Division on Migration and Refugees, to mark the World Refugee Day, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

25-26 June

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit:

International activity "Youth for 2030" of the European Educational Exchanges – Youth for Understanding (EEE-YFU)

Eberswalde, Germany

1 July

European Youth Foundation

onsite monitoring visit : Work plan activity "No Hate Speech Network Conference" of the No Hate Speech Network

Trencin, Slovak Republic

1-9 July

Youth Peace Camp 2025

Organised by the Council of Europe Youth Department, with support from the Directorate of Political Affairs and External Relations and the Cyprus Youth Board under the Presidency of Malta, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

11 July

European Youth Foundation information session for youth organisations: preparing for 2026-2027 Structural grants for international youth organisation and networks

Online

17-18 July

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit :

International activity "Youth Policy Academy – Engage, Connect, Empower (YPA-ECE)" of the Young Friends of the Earth Europe (YFOEE)

Budapest, Hungary

22-24 July

Quality Label for Youth Centres
programme, end of term visit

Killarney, Ireland

24-25 July

*European Youth Foundation onsite
monitoring visit* : International
activity "The essentials of
organisational sustainability in
youth work" of Forum of European
Muslim Youth and Student
Organisations (FEMYSO)

Verona, Italy

27 July-1 August

*2nd residential training seminar on
human rights education of the new
long-term training course for trainers
in the field of non-formal education
in Ukraine*

Co-organised with the Ministry of
Youth and Sports of Ukraine, Lviv,
Ukraine

30-31 July

*European Youth Foundation onsite
monitoring visit* : International activity
"Summer camp: Policies of today, and
of tomorrow" as part of the Work plan
"One for all, all for one-OUR rights" of
the Federation of Young European
Greens (FYEG)

Celbowo, Poland

5 August

Kick-off meeting for European
Youth Foundation Pilot activity
grants – for youth projects
approved following the 15 May
2025 deadline

Online

22 August

Sarajevo Film Festival presents
first *Youth Perspectives Award* in
co-operation with the Council of
Europe

Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

3-4 September

*European Youth Foundation
information session for youth
organisations* : preparing for 2026
International activities, Annual
work plans and Structural grants (in
view of 1 October 2025 deadline)

Brussels, Belgium

10-12 September

*Monitoring visit by the Quality Label
expert team to the Plovdiv Youth
Centre in Bulgaria*

Plovdiv, Bulgaria

11 September

*European Youth Foundation onsite
monitoring visit* : International
activity "A Future and a Hope:
Bridging Youth Resilience Across
Borders" of the World Student
Christian Federation in Europe
(WSCF)

Luserna San Giovanni, Italy

15 September

European Youth Foundation
information session for youth
organisations: preparing for
International activities, Annual
work plans and Structural grants (in
view of 1 October deadline)

Online

16-17 September

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit : International activity on “Quality assurance for all” of the Human Rights Education Youth Network

Brussels, Belgium

18 September

Roundtable on Deliberative Democracy

Co-organised with the Embassy of Ireland in co-operation with DemNet, the event launched the series “Strengthening Democratic Resilience through Youth Engagement and Deliberative Democracy”, European Youth Centre Budapest

20 September

European Heritage Days

European Youth Centre Strasbourg

30 September-1 October

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit : Work plan “RE-mind: Reinforcing Mental Well-being and Inclusion in Youth Clubs” of the European Confederation of Youth Clubs (ECYC)

Valencia, Spain

7-8 October

“Young People for Democracy: Youth Perspectives in Action”, Youth event associated with the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth

Valletta, Malta

8-9 October

10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for youth
“Young people for democracy: youth perspectives in action”

Valletta, Malta

10 October

Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the youth card:
“Looking ahead to new horizons”, working breakfast at the Ministerial Conference

Valletta, Malta

10-11 October

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit : International activity “Rebuild Ukraine Lab” of the European Youth Parliament

Brasov, Romania

19-23 October

Educational Forum for youth centres of the Quality Label network

European Youth Education Centre Magdeburg (EJBM), Germany

20-21 October

Conference *“Youth Perspectives in Contemporary Europe: New Tasks for Research and Policy”*

Organised by CoE-EU Youth Partnership, Brussels, Belgium

21-23 October

Study visit to the Council of Europe for youth workers and representatives of youth centres from Ukraine

European Youth Centre Strasbourg

28-30 October

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit : International activity on “International Youth Conference on LGBTQI Inclusion in Sports” of the International LGBTQI Youth and Student Organisation (IGLYO)

Brussels, Belgium

November-December

EYF Exhibition “Tales of the Brave”, projects of young people and youth organisations from Ukraine, an exhibition of youth initiatives funded by the European Youth Foundation under Special call Ukraine

Palais, Council of Europe Headquarters (10-21 November), European Youth Centre Strasbourg (17 November-1 December), at the closing event of the Lviv European Youth Capital 2025 (28 November), European Youth Centre Budapest (December)

3 November

European Youth Centre Strasbourg inaugurates new collaborative space: the Malta Lounge

European Youth Centre Strasbourg

5-7 November

“Reviving democracy – young voices at the heart of change”: Youth Delegation participating in the *World Forum for Democracy 2025*

European Youth Centre Strasbourg & Council of Europe Headquarters, Strasbourg

10-12 November

End-of-term visit of Marienthal Youth Centre

Luxembourg

11-13 November

Seminar *“Equipping Youth with Skills for Climate Action: Youth Engagement and Effective Information Sharing”*, in the framework of the Partnership between ERYICA and the Council of Europe

European Youth Centre Strasbourg

17 November

54th Ad-hoc meeting of the Board of co-ordination of the Partial agreement on Youth mobility through the Youth Card

European Youth Centre Strasbourg

19 November

36th Joint Co-ordination Committee meeting of the Partnership Agreement between ERYICA (European Youth Information and Counselling Agency) and the Council of Europe

European Youth Centre Strasbourg

23-30 November

Peer to peer study visit to Quality Label Youth Centres – Destelheide & Hanenbos and the Hoge Rielen for representatives of Ukrainian youth centres

Organised in co-operation with ADJ (Flemish Non-Profit Association), the NGO «Kremenchuk informative-elucidative centre European club» (Youth Centre «Space of Ideas») Belgium

25 November

Annual meeting of the Pool of European Youth Researchers-PEYR and the correspondents of the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy-EKCYP

Organised by the EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership, online

28 November

Roundtable “Youth, Ukraine, Europe: Youth Perspectives for the Reconstruction of Ukraine”

Lviv, Ukraine

28 November

Signature of the five-year *Framework Programme for Co-operation in the field of youth policy (2026-2030)* by the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine and the Council of Europe

Lviv, Ukraine

3-5 December

Conference *“Democracy in Action : Youth Work Matters!”*

Organised in co-operation with the International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany (IJAB) European Youth Centre Strasbourg

9-11 December

UNLEASHING HUMAN RIGHTS – A forum to further universal human rights education for, with and by young people

Organised in co-operation with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, with their non-governmental partners including the European Youth Forum and Amnesty International European Youth Centre Budapest

11-12 December

European Youth Foundation onsite monitoring visit: International activity “PIL EQ Evaluation Seminar” of the JM International

Brussels, Belgium

Appendix II

List of members of the statutory bodies of the youth sector

Members of the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) in 2025

CDEJ Bureau

Member State	Name	Institution	Role
Malta	Miriam Teuma	Agenzija Zghazagh (Maltese Youth Agency) Ministry of Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation	Chairperson
Bulgaria	Liliya Elenkova	Ministry of Youth and Sports	Vice-Chairperson
Belgium	Laurence Hermand	Bureau International Jeunesse	Bureau Member
Germany	Uwe Finke-Timpe	European and international Youth policy- Unit 504 Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth	Bureau Member
Kazakhstan	Valikhan K. Bakhretidinov	NGO "The country of the Great Steppe"	Bureau Member
Portugal	Jorge Orlando Queiros	Portuguese Youth Institute, I.P. Department of Information, Communication and International Relations	Bureau Member
Slovenia	Igor Jesih	Ministry of Education, Science and Sport Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth	Bureau Member
Türkiye	Enes Efendioğlu	Youth Services, General Directorate of International Organizations and External Relations Ministry of Youth and Sports	Bureau Member

Other CDEJ members

Member State	Name	Institution
Albania	Arlinda Topciu	Cabinet of the Minister of State for Youth and Children Government of Albania
Albania	Anisa Pollo	Directorate for Culture and Youth, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports
Albania	Lira Pipa	Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports
Albania	Sara Bodo	Agency of Youth in Albania
Andorra	Joaquim Pujol	Bureau de la participation et de la promotion de la jeunesse et du bénévolat Département de l'enfance, de l'adolescence et de la jeunesse Ministère des Affaires sociales, de la Jeunesse et de l'Égalité
Armenia	Zara Aslanyan	Youth Policy, Supplementary and Continuing Education department, Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports
Armenia	Armenuhi Petrosyan	Youth Policy, Supplementary and Continuing Education Department, Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports
Austria	Markus Wolf	Federal Chancellery, Section VI – Family and Youth, Department 7 – European and International Family and Youth Policy
Azerbaijan	Zarifa Zulfugarova	International Relations Department, Ministry of Youth and Sport
Azerbaijan	Qorxmaz Habibbayli	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of Humanitarian and Social Issues
Azerbaijan	Matanat Mammadova	Youth Strategic Development Division , Ministry of Youth and Sport
Azerbaijan	Ramil Jabbarov	Youth Affairs Department
Belgium	Thierry Dufour	Bureau International Jeunesse
Belgium	Bart De Boiserie	Youth team, Department of Culture, Youth and Media Youth, media and transversal policy – Team Youth
Belgium	Armand Meys	Ministry of the German-speaking Community
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Adnan Husic	Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Member State	Name	Institution
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kemal Salic	European Integration and International Co-operation, Mobility and Youth Unit Education Department Ministry of Civil Affairs
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Emina Kumrić	Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina Education Sector, Head of Mobility and Youth Department
Croatia	Ivana Barac Leko	Ministry of Science, Education and Youth
Croatia	Marina Smernic	Ministry of Science, Education and Youth
Cyprus	Maria Christodoulou	Youth Board of Cyprus
Czechia	Jana Tichackova	Youth Department, Youth Policy Unit, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
Czechia	Šárka Doležalová	Youth Department, Youth Policy Unit, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
Denmark	Katrine Holten Winther	Danish Ministry of Children and Education, Ministry of Children and Education
Estonia	Heili Griffith	Head of Youth and Talent Policy Department, Ministry of Education and Research
Estonia	Martti Martinson	Estonian Ministry of Education and Research
Finland	Sanna Puura	Ministry of Education and Culture
France	Marie Goiset	Bureau des relations internationales, Direction de la Jeunesse, Education Populaire et Vie Associative (DJEPVA) Ministère de l'éducation nationale et de la jeunesse
France	Séverine Origny Fleishman	Bureau des relations internationales, Direction de la Jeunesse, Education Populaire et Vie Associative (DJEPVA)
France	Juliette M'hadhebi	Ministère de l'éducation nationale et de la jeunesse, Affaires européennes (Union européenne-Conseil de l'Europe)
Georgia	Vakhtang Baakashvili	Youth Agency (Ministry of Education, Science and Youth of Georgia)
Georgia	Ani Chubinidze	Youth Policy Research and Analysis Department Youth Agency (Ministry of Education, Science and Youth of Georgia)

Member State	Name	Institution
Georgia	Nino Mikhnanashvili	Youth Research and Analysis Department Youth Agency (Ministry of Education, Science and Youth of Georgia)
Germany	Axel Stammberger	European and International Youth Policy Unit, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth
Greece	Konstantina Pisi	General Secretariat For Demography And Housing Policy, Ministry Of Social Cohesion and Family Affairs
Holy See	Renato Cursi	Representative of the Holy See
Hungary	Enikő Varga-Véghvári	Prime Minister's office, General Youth Department, Youth Policy Division
Iceland	Valgerdur Thorunn Bjarnadottir	Ministry of Education and Children
Iceland	Victor Berg Guðmundsson	Ministry of Education and Children
Iceland	Gísli Ólafsson	Ministry of Education and Children
Ireland	Shauna Markey	Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth
Ireland	Paula Keatley	Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth
Ireland	Lisa Kavangh	Youth Affairs Unit Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth
Ireland	Karl Duff	Youth Affairs Unit Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth
Italy	Marialuisa Silvestrini	Prime Ministers' Office – Department for Youth and National Civic Service
Italy	Federica Valeri	Government official
Latvia	Renate Mencendorfa	Department of Policy, Initiatives and Development, Ministry of Education and Science
Latvia	Randa Keņģe	Department of Policy, Initiatives and Development, Ministry of Education and Science
Liechtenstein	Awaiting Nomination	

Member State	Name	Institution
Lithuania	Juozas Meldziukas	National Youth Policy Division Agency of Youth Affairs
Luxembourg	Charlotte Loaso	Service Relations internationales, Le Gouvernement du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse, Service National de la Jeunesse
Luxembourg	Alix Ramos	Division du Développement du secteur Jeunesse, Le Gouvernement du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse, Service National de la Jeunesse
Republic Of Moldova	Marcel Marin	Head of the Youth Department Ministry of Education, Culture and Research
Republic Of Moldova	Alexandr Petrov	National Youth Agency of the Republic of Moldova
Monaco	Michael Landau	Direction de l'Éducation Nationale, de la Jeunesse et des Sports Département de l'Intérieur
Montenegro	Darko Stojanovic	Ministry of Sports and Youth
Montenegro	Boris Ivanovic	Independent Advisor
Netherlands	Yasemin Glasgow	Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport
Netherlands	Christie Stiphout	Youth Department Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport
North Macedonia	Fatmir Sabriu	Ministry of Social Policy, Demography, and Youth of North Macedonia
Norway	Trine-Lise Hoffman	The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs
Norway	Lillian Solheim	The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs
Norway	Terje Solberg	Norwegian Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion
Poland	Anna Dworzyczka	Ministry of National Education
Poland	Ewa Raińska-Nowak	International Co-operation Department, Ministry of National Education

Member State	Name	Institution
Romania	Victor Ionescu	General Directorate for Youth, Family and Demographic Policies, Ministry of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities
Romania	Radu Dragomir	International Relations Unit Ministry of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities
San Marino	Riccardo Venturini	Office of the Secretary of State for Education and Culture, University and Scientific Research, Youth Policies
Serbia	Ivana Antonijević	Sector for Youth Ministry of Tourism and Youth
Slovak Republic	Kamila Dankovčíková	Youth Unit, Youth, Health and Physical Activities Department Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic
Slovak Republic	Krištof Mojzes	Youth, Health and Physical Activities Department Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth
Spain	Clara Gonzalvez Meseguer	Deputy-Direction General for National and International Co-operation INJUVE / Spanish Institute for Youth
Spain	Antonio Miguel Seron Dieguez	Bilateral and Multilateral Co-operation Area, Deputy-Direction General for National and International Co-operation, INJUVE/Spanish Institute for Youth
Spain	Alicia Nuñez Palomar	Direction General for National and International Co-operation INJUVE / Spanish Institute for Youth
Spain	Pablo Gonzalez Martin	Direction General for European Programmes and International Co-operation, INJUVE/Spanish Institute for Youth
Sweden	Diana Simon	Ministry of Health and Social Affairs
Sweden	Niklas Karlendal	Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Government Offices of Sweden
Switzerland	Jean-Marie Bouverat	Affaires internationales, Secteur Organisations internationales, Office fédéral des assurances sociales
Türkiye	Gizem Erkan	Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Türkiye

Member State	Name	Institution
Ukraine	Nataliia Radchuk	Department for International Co-operation and European Integration, Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine
United Kingdom	Kirby Swales	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
United Kingdom	Gwen Aiston	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
United Kingdom	Guy Norton	Department for culture media and sport
United Kingdom	Sara Mills	Department for Culture, Media and Sport, International Youth Team

Members of the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) in 2025

CCJ Bureau

Name	Organisation	Role
Nina Grmuša	EFIL – European Federation for Intercultural Learning	Chairperson
Maurizio Cuttin	BYC – British Youth Council	Vice-Chair
Anja Jokić	KOMS – National Youth Council of Serbia	Bureau member
Anna Knobbout	EYMH – Euro Youth Mental Health	Bureau member
Riikka Pasanen	EEE-YFU – European Educational Exchanges – Youth for Understanding	Interim Bureau member
Emma Wedner	LSU – National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations	Bureau member

Other CCJ members

Name	Organisation
Agni Gkoutziamani	YEE – Youth and Environment Europe
Emilie Tamo Kamguia	
Ariela Di Gioacchino	EUJS – European Union of Jewish Students
Arno Schrooyen	ESU – European Students' Union
Eva Kotnik	RYE – Rural Youth Europe

Name	Organisation
Gavrilis Efstratiou	CYC – Cyprus Youth Council
Adamantia Zisimopoulou	
Iman Maslić	Youth Council of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Jannis Gustke	IYNF – International Young Nature Friends
Jessý Jónsdóttir	LUF – National Youth Council of Iceland
Konstanze Schönfeld	TEJO – World Esperanto Youth Organisation
Léonard Ly Tri	CNAJEP – French Committee for national and international relations of youth and non-formal organisations
Maria-Nadia Tismănaru	Timiș County Youth Foundation
Mariam Tartousi	No Hate Speech Network (NHSN)
Marharyta Vorykhava	RADA – Belarusian National Youth Council
Matías Rubio Morillo	La Bardal NGO
Meri Vanesyan	Youth Development Centre of Armenia
Harutyun Mirzakhanyan	
Noah Kramer	WOSM – World Organization of the Scout Movement
Péter Török	Federation of Children's and Youth Municipal Councils
Petr Pavel Banda	IQ Roma servis
Roberta Bojang	OJUEA – Organisation des Jeunes pour l'Union Européenne et Africaine – Youth EU AU
Sean Currie	FYEG – Federation of Young European Greens
Anja Presnukhina	
Stanislava Stefanova	AEGEE – European Students' Forum
Xesc Mainzer	JEF – Young European Federalists
Yevheniia Fedotova	IFLRY – International Federation of Liberal Youth
Zia Perko Rogel	Connect International (CI)

Joint Council on Youth Rapporteurs

Name	Role
Jannis Gustke	Rapporteur for the Rights of persons with disabilities
Jean-Marie Bouverat	Rapporteur on the rights of the child
Petr Banda	Rapporteur on Roma and Traveller Issues
Stanislava Stefanova	Rapporteur on Gender Equality

Appendix III

List of activities where statutory bodies' members represented the Council of Europe youth sector

16 January

Working group on intersectional discrimination-Anja Jokić (CCJ)

Organised by the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI), online

21 January

Meeting of the Council of Europe Committee of experts on combating technology-facilitated violence against women and girls – Anna Knobbout (CCJ)
Strasbourg

22 January

Informal Meeting on “Youth Participation in the Digital Age” – Emili Khachatryan (CCJ)

Organised by the Committee of Ministers, Strasbourg

11 February

First meeting of the Council of Europe Working Group on developing positive narratives in the context of anti-gender movements – Péter Török (CCJ)

Organised by the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission (GEC), online

11-13 February

Third meeting of the Council of Europe Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME)-Sean Currie (CCJ)
Strasbourg

12 February

Conference “Shaping the Future Through Youth Participation”-Sean Currie (CCJ)

Organised by the ALDA-European Association for Local Democracy, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

25 February

Working group on the implementation of the Gender Equality Strategy-Anna Knobbout

Organised by the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission (GEC), online

26-27 February

Third meeting of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on artificial intelligence, equality and discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI)-Stanislava Stefanova (CCJ)

Strasbourg

2-5 March

EU Youth Conference-Nina Grmuša (CCJ)

Organised by the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Lublin

10 March

Exchange of views of the Chairs of the Council of Europe Directorate for Democracy Committees-Nina Grmuša (CCJ) and Miriam Teuma (CDEJ)

Online

12 March

Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media – Matías Rubio Morillo and Xesc Mainzer (CCJ)

Paris

19 March

Exchange of views and co-ordination between the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly and CDEJ/CCJ Joint Bureaux-Nina Grmuša, Maurizio Cuttin (CCJ) and Miriam Teuma (CDEJ)

Strasbourg

20 March

Conference of Presidents of Parliaments-Nina Grmuša (CMJ)

Organised by the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly, Strasbourg

1-2 April

11th Plenary meeting of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM)-Petr Pavel Banda (CCJ)

Strasbourg

2-3 April

Dialogue Meeting with Roma and Traveller Civil Society-Petr Pavel Banda (CCJ)

Organised by the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM), Strasbourg

24 April

Third Meeting of the Secretary General with Presidents of the Intergovernmental Committees of the Council of Europe-Nina Grmuša (CCJ) and Miriam Teuma (CDEJ)

Organised by the Private Office of the Council of Europe Secretary General, Strasbourg

29 April

Working group on intersectional discrimination-Anja Jokić, Stanislava Stefanova, Jannis Gustke, Petr Pavel Banda (CCJ)

Organised by the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI), online

13-15 May

18th German Child and Youth Welfare Congress – Jessý Jónsdóttir (CCJ)

Organised by the Child and Youth Welfare Association (AGJ), Leipzig

13-14 May

7th Meeting of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Intercultural Inclusion (ADI-INT) – Mariam Tartousi (CCJ)

Online

13-15 May

Plenary meeting of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission (GEC)-Nina Grmuša, Stanislava Stefanova (CCJ)

Strasbourg

14-15 May

13th Meeting of the Council of Europe Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI)-Zia Perko Rogelj (CCJ)

Strasbourg

21 May

34th Meeting of the North South Centre Executive Committee-Roberta Bojang (CCJ)

Strasbourg

26-27 May

Plenary meeting of the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Democracy (CDDEM) – Emma Wedner (CCJ)

Strasbourg

3-5 June

Plenary meeting of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO) – Marharyta Vorykhava (CCJ)

Strasbourg

1-3 July

Plenary meeting of the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)-Anja Jokić (CCJ)

Strasbourg

7 July

International conference on “Protecting and Promoting the Rule of Law”-Maurizio Cuttin (CCJ)

Organised by the UK Attorney General's office, in collaboration with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, the Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law and the the Venice Commission, London

25 July

European Rally 2025-Eva Kotnik (CCJ)

Organised by the Rural Youth Europe, Novo Mesto

20-22 July

Shaping Tomorrow: Youth in Local Governance-Xesc Mainzer (CCJ)

Organised by the National Youth Council Cyprus, Germasogeia

29-31 July

OSCE Youth Forum & OSCE+50 Conference-Anja Jokić (CCJ)

Helsinki

15 August

International Youth Conference-Yevheniia Fedotova (CCJ)

Organised by the National Youth Council of Moldova-CNTM, Chişinău

4 September

Exchange of views with the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly Subcommittee on youth and the society of the future-Nina Grmuša (CCJ)

Paris

22-23 September

Working Group on civil society participation (GT-CS)-Emma Wedner (CCJ)

Organised by the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Democracy (CDDEM), Strasbourg

23-25 September

Council of Europe Steering Committee for Education (CDEDU) – Riikka Pasanen (CCJ)

Strasbourg

29 September-1 October

Plenary meeting of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly-draft report and resolution “Youth movements for democracy”-Nina Grmuša (CCJ)

Strasbourg

13-14 October

Working Group on Parameters for the application and implementation of the Reykjavík Principles of Democracy (GT-P)-Anja Jokić (CCJ)

Organised by the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Democracy (CDDEM), Strasbourg

14-15 October

8th Meeting of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Intercultural Inclusion (ADI-INT) – Mariam Tartousi (CCJ)

Strasbourg

14-15 October

12th Plenary meeting of the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM)-Petr Pavel Banda (CCJ)

Strasbourg

15 October

Council of Europe Conference on the Protection of Health – Marharyta Vorykhava (CCJ)

Organised by the Steering Committee for Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO), Strasbourg

24 October

Exchange of views between the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers Rapporteur Group on Social and Health Questions (GR-SOC) with civil society and social partners-Nina Grmuša (CCJ)

Strasbourg

27 October

International Youth Conference on LGBTQI Inclusion in Sports – Arno Schrooyen (CCJ)

Organised by the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer and Intersex (LGBTQI) Youth & Student Organisation (IGLYO), Brussels

3-5 November

Meeting of the Council of Europe Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI)-Zia Perko Rogelj (CCJ)

Online

5-7 November

World Forum for Democracy – Anna Knobbout, Mariam Tartousi, Péter Török (CCJ)

Organised by the Council of Europe Directorate for Democracy, Strasbourg

7-9 November

General Assembly of the European Youth Forum-Nina Grmuša (CMJ)

Kandersteg

11-13 November

Seminar “Equipping Youth with Skills for Climate Action: Youth Engagement and Effective Information Sharing”- Emma Wedner (CCJ)

Organised by the European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA), Strasbourg

18-21 November

Plenary meeting of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO)-Nina Grmuša (CCJ) and Miriam Teuma (CDEJ)

Strasbourg

20 November

101st Plenary Meeting of the Council of Europe Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) side event “Strengthening good governance: Consolidating Integrity and Accountability at the Sub-National Level” – Matías Rubio Morillo and Xesc Mainzer (CCJ)

Organised by GRECO in co-operation with the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg

27 November

Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C) of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe – exchange of views with representatives of civil society – Matías Rubio Morillo (CCJ)

Strasbourg

27-28 November

Plenary meeting of the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Democracy (CDDEM) – Emma Wedner (CCJ)

Strasbourg

27-28 November

19th Ministerial Conference of the Pompidou Group – Gavriel Efstratiou (CCJ)

Strasbourg

27-29 November

Closing ceremony of the Lviv-European Youth Capital 2025-Jorge Orlando Queiros (CDEJ) and Maurizio Cuttin (CCJ)

Lviv

2-4 December

Meeting of the Council of Europe Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME)-Sean Currie (CCJ)

Strasbourg

4-5 December

International Conference “Democracy in Action : Youth Work Matters!” – Sean Currie (CCJ)

Co-organised by the International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany (IJAB) and the Council of Europe Youth Department, Strasbourg

15-16 December

Parliamentary Conference on Artificial Intelligence-Maurizio Cuttin (CCJ)

Organised by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, London

Appendix IV

Statute of the European Youth Centre and the Statute of the European Youth Foundation

STATUTE OF THE EUROPEAN YOUTH CENTRE AND THE STATUTE OF THE EUROPEAN YOUTH FOUNDATION

(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 25 November 1998, at the 650th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)

The Committee of Ministers,

Having regard to its decision on the adoption of the Statute of the European Youth Centre, at its 196th meeting on 12 January 1971,

Having regard to Resolution (72) 17 on the setting up of the European Youth Foundation and Statute of the Foundation, adopted by the Committee of Ministers at its 50th Session on 15 May 1972,

Having regard to the Final Declaration adopted by the Second Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe on 11 October 1997 and the Plan of Action established in this respect,

Having regard to Resolution (98) 6 on the Council of Europe policy in the field of youth, adopted by the Committee of Ministers at its 628th meeting on 16 April 1998,

Having regard to the Final Declaration of the Fifth Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth, held in Bucharest (Romania) from 27 to 29 April 1998,

Convinced that the European Youth Centre and the European Youth Foundation constitute essential instruments of the Council of Europe's policy and activities in the youth field,

Considering that it is necessary to adapt the European Youth Centre and the European Youth Foundation to the new realities of young people's lives and youth work in Europe,

In order to ensure better coherence, transparency and efficiency in the implementation of the youth policy of the Council of Europe,

Resolves that, from 1 January 1999, the European Youth Centre and the European Youth Foundation shall be ruled respectively by the statutes appended to the present resolution.

STATUTE OF THE EUROPEAN YOUTH CENTRE

Article 1 – Role and aims

The European Youth Centre, hereinafter called the “Centre”, shall be an educational establishment of the Council of Europe and a knowledge base on youth affairs, in particular youth policy and youth work, as well as emerging youth phenomena. As an instrument for the participation of European youth in the building of Europe, it shall contribute to implementing the youth activities programme of the Council of Europe. To this end, in the interests of both on-going education and cultural development, its aims shall be:

- a. to supplement the training of youth leaders in a European context;
- b. to provide non-governmental youth organisations and networks, as well as other non- governmental structures involved in areas of youth work, relevant to the Council of Europe youth policy, with a meeting place for the furtherance of international understanding in the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and for the detailed study of European problems;
- c. to seek, more particularly, means of ensuring participation by young people in solving the problems which concern them;
- d. to promote research into youth matters through the exchange of ideas and experiences.

Article 2 – Seat of the Centre

The seat of the Centre shall be in Strasbourg, at the headquarters of the Council of Europe. The Centre shall operate in the venues established by the Committee of Ministers.

Article 3 – Organs of the Centre

1. The Centre shall have the following organs:

- the Joint Council on Youth Questions;
- the Programming Committee;
- the Advisory Council;

which are joint organs of the Centre and the European Youth Foundation.

2. The terms of reference of the above organs shall be adopted by the Committee of Ministers every year.

3. The secretariat of the organs of the Centre shall be provided by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

Article 4 – Participation by Contracting Parties to the European Cultural Convention, not members of the Council of Europe

Any Contracting Party to the European Cultural Convention which is not a member of the Council of Europe may be invited by a decision of the Committee of Ministers to participate in the activities of the Centre.

Article 5 – Financial organisation

1. The Centre's income and expenditure shall be provided for and authorised in a subsidiary budget to the general budget of the Council of Europe and shall be submitted for approval to the Committee of Ministers.

2. The Centre's income shall comprise:

- a. its own receipts, such as trainees' registration fees and any other payments received;
- b. contributions from Contracting Parties to the European Cultural Convention, not members of the Council of Europe, which have been invited by the Committee of Ministers to participate in the activities of the Centre according to the terms established by the Committee of Ministers, it being understood that the expenditure budget of the Centre shall be increased by an amount equivalent to these receipts;
- c. payments made within the limits of the appropriation granted by the Committee of Ministers in the Council of Europe budget as a contribution to the subsidiary budget provided for in paragraph 1 above.

3. The Secretary General shall have power to accept any grants, donations or legacies made to the Centre. Express authority of the Committee of Ministers shall, however, be required, if the donor has requested that these be used for a specific purpose. Such special resources and the expenditure they are intended to cover shall be included in the Centre's budget, the amount of which shall be increased accordingly.

4. The Centre's assets shall form part of those of the Council of Europe. The accounts of the Organisation shall include a separate account for budgetary operations relating to the Centre. Such operations shall be submitted to the auditors in the same way as those of the Organisation.

Article 6 – Administration

1. The Centre shall be placed under the administrative authority of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.
2. The Centre shall be subject to the administrative and financial regulations of the Council of Europe.

Article 7 – Amendments to the statute of the Centre

The provisions of the present statute may be amended by a decision of the Committee of Ministers after consulting the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) and the Advisory Council.

STATUTE OF THE EUROPEAN YOUTH FOUNDATION

Article 1 – Functions and aims of the Foundation

1. The European Youth Foundation, hereinafter called the “Foundation”, is an establishment of the Council of Europe. The aim of the Foundation is to promote youth co-operation in Europe by providing financial support to such European youth activities as serve the promotion of peace, understanding and co-operation between the people of Europe and of the world, in a spirit of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

2. The Foundation will thus provide financial support in particular for the following activities, carried out by international and national non-governmental youth organisations and networks as well as by other non-governmental structures involved in areas of youth work, relevant to the Council of Europe’s youth policy:

- a. educational, cultural, social and humanitarian manifestations of a European character;
- b. activities aiming at strengthening peace and co-operation in Europe;
- c. activities designed to promote closer co-operation and better understanding among the youth of Europe, particularly by developing the exchange of information;
- d. activities intended to stimulate mutual aid in Europe and in the developing countries for cultural, educational and social purposes;
- e. studies, research and documentation on youth matters.

3. The initiative in financing certain activities of the same nature as those specified in paragraph 2 of this article may, in particular cases, be taken by the Foundation itself following a decision of the Programming Committee.

4. The Foundation may also make grants to international non-governmental youth organisations and networks, with a view to covering all or part of such administrative expenses as are entailed in the carrying out of activities for which the Foundation provides financial support, in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article.

5. In the exercise of its functions, the Foundation shall take into account any bilateral or multilateral agreement or activity concluded or undertaken with a purpose similar to its own.

Article 2 – Members of the Foundation

The members of the Foundation are the member States of the Council of Europe.

Article 3 – Participation by Contracting Parties to the European Cultural Convention, not members of the Council of Europe

Any Contracting Party to the European Cultural Convention which is not a member of the Council of Europe may be invited by a decision of the Committee of Ministers to participate in the activities of the Foundation.

Article 4 – Seat of the Foundation

The seat of the Foundation shall be in Strasbourg, at the headquarters of the Council of Europe.

Article 5 – Organs of the Foundation

1. The organs of the Foundation are:

- a.* the Joint Council on Youth Questions;
- b.* the Programming Committee;
- c.* the Advisory Council.

The Joint Council, the Programming Committee and the Advisory Council are joint organs of the Foundation and the European Youth Centre.

The terms of reference of the Joint Council on Youth Questions, the Programming Committee and the Advisory Council shall be adopted every year by the Committee of Ministers.

2. The secretariat of the organs of the Foundation is provided by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

Article 6 – Financial organisation

1. The Foundation's income and expenditure shall be provided for and authorised in a separate budget within the general budget of the Council of Europe and shall be submitted for approval to the Committee of Ministers.

The Foundation's income shall comprise :

- a.* Contributions by the member States of the Foundation, the total amount of which shall be determined by the Committee of Ministers and apportioned between the member States, according to the contribution scale adopted annually for the Council of Europe ordinary budget.
- b.* Voluntary contributions from member States of the Foundation. Such contributions shall not, in respect of any state, exceed 10% of the total amount of contributions provided for in sub-paragraph *a* of this article. However, any member State whose contribution, according to sub-paragraph *a* of this article, exceeds 10% of the total amount paid by the member States may make a voluntary additional contribution of an amount exceeding 10% of the total but not exceeding the highest contribution made.

- c. Contributions from Contracting Parties to the European Cultural Convention, not members of the Council of Europe, which have been invited by the Committee of Ministers to participate in the activities of the Foundation in conformity with Article 3 of the present statute and according to the terms established by the Committee of Ministers.
 - d. Grants, donations or legacies made in favour of the Foundation and accepted, in accordance with the provisions of the regulations referred to in Article 7, paragraph 1, by the Committee of Ministers with the agreement of the Programming Committee.
 - e. All other receipts arising out of the Foundation's activities and approved by the Programming Committee.
2. The Foundation's expenditure budget shall be increased by an amount equivalent to the receipts as referred to in paragraphs *b*, *c*, *d* and *e* above.
3. The credit balance in a financial year shall be added to the Foundation's resources for the following year and the expenditure budget will be increased by an equivalent amount.

Article 7 – Administration

1. The Committee of Ministers shall, after obtaining the opinion of the Programming Committee, adopt regulations containing the basic rules governing the manner and conditions of the use of the Foundation's resources;
2. The Foundation shall be subject to the administrative and financial regulations of the Council of Europe, unless otherwise provided within the present statute.
3. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall put at the disposal of the Foundation the administrative and technical service necessary for its functioning.

Article 8 – Amendments to the statute of the Foundation

The provisions of the present Statute may be amended by a decision of the Committee of Ministers after consulting the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) and the Advisory Council.

This report looks back at the key activities and achievements of the Council of Europe's Youth Department in 2025, a landmark year for the Council of Europe youth sector. The 10th Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth, the 4th European Youth Work Convention, and a reformed European Youth Foundation set new benchmarks for youth participation and democratic engagement across Europe. Backed by trusted partnerships with youth organisations, networks and member states, the sector continued to mobilise young people as active citizens.

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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE