



DDP-YD/ETD (2021) 74

Strasbourg, 31 May 2021



YOUTH PEACE WEEK 2021

Empowering young people and youth organisations from conflict-stricken regions for action towards dialogue and conflict transformation through online learning and cooperation

30 June – 8 July 2021

Online

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Deadline: **21 June 2021**

Background

The Council of Europe Youth Department has developed the concept of the Youth Peace Camp as an activity to engage young people and youth organisations from conflict affected regions in dialogue and conflict transformation based on human rights education and intercultural learning. The Peace Camp is traditionally held at the European Youth Centre but, in 2020, the pandemic meant that a camp could not be held in person. Instead, an online learning and dialogue activity – the Youth Peace Week – has been created and has generated a high level of interest and attendance.

Unfortunately, the Council of Europe cannot resume holding the peace camp as a presential activity again in Strasbourg in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to preserve the learning potential and local outreach of the activity, the 2021 Youth Peace Camp this year is therefore structured in 3 components:

1. A **Youth Peace Week** – an online learning and dialogue activity to be implemented between 1 and 8 July
2. **Local Peace Camps** – local projects for dialogue and peace-building to be implemented between 15 July and 31 October
3. A **Peace Camp Conference** – to be organised online on 3 and 4 December¹.

Like in 2020, the Youth Peace Week will be fully held online with an educational programme that will provide participants essential understanding of human rights (education), conflict analysis and transformation and peace-building.

In 2021 the participants will also have the possibility to plan and actively take part in presential local or regional peace camps that will be held between August and November in their local communities or regions. These local peace camps will be organised after the peace week; information about the local peace camps can be found on the youth portal of the Council of Europe.

The current call for applications concerns the **Youth Peace Week** but the 3 activities are closely connected. Participants of the Youth Peace Week may also be participants or facilitators in local peace camps and, in principle, everyone should take part in the Peace Camp Conference.

Aim

The Youth Peace Week aims to empower young people and youth organisations from conflict affected regions by equipping them with competences and educational resources to enhance young people's role and action for peace-building and conflict transformation.

Objectives

The main objectives of the Youth Peace Week are:

- To support awareness and learning for conflict transformation, peacebuilding and dialogue
- To share experiences, projects and challenges among youth peace activists in coping with conflict and violence as multipliers and peer leaders with young people
- To associate young people and youth organisations to the Council of Europe's work for peaceful and inclusive societies

¹ All dates may be subject to adjustments.

- To stimulate networking and mutual support among young people and youth organisations involved in peacebuilding activities
- To motivate prepare participants to undertake local pilot actions for peace-building and conflict transformation, such as the Local Youth Peace Camps
- To enhance the potential and experiences of the participants to learn and take action for peace through online learning and cooperation.

Participants

In 2021, the Youth Peace Week will bring together some 70 young people with a special focus on groups from the following countries and communities:

- Kosovo* , participants coming from Albanian, Serbian and other communities;
- Both banks of the river Nistru/Dniestr;
- Cyprus (Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots);
- South Caucasus, especially in border regions and with ethnic minorities.

Participants from other conflict affected regions and communities (e.g. Ukraine, former Yugoslav republics) as well as youth leaders and activists interested or active in peace-building and conflict transformation are also kindly encouraged to apply.

All participants should:

- be aged between 18 and 28 years (exceptions are possible if duly justified);
- be able to work in English;
- be available and fully committed to take part in the Youth Peace Week and preferably also in a Local Peace Camp or similar project in their community;
- be involved in a youth or community project or organisation;
- possess a sense of responsibility for their own actions, a commitment to personal and community development and engagement in cooperation with other participants;
- be motivated to initiate youth initiatives for peace building;
- be interested in learning further, and contribute to the learning process of other participants, about conflict transformation, human rights education and peacebuilding.

A specific priority will be given to applicants who are or have been displaced as a result of armed conflict (refugees, internally displaced people, migrants, asylum-seekers).

The Council of Europe welcomes applications from all candidates who fulfil the specific profile of the activities, irrespective of gender, disability, marital or parental status, racial, ethnic or social origin, colour, religion, belief, sexual orientation or any other basis.

Methodology

Similarly to the residential Youth Peace Camps, the programme of the Youth Peace Week will emphasise interpersonal dialogue, cooperation and dialogue based on human rights education and conflict transformation adapted to an online environment. The methodology will be based on the Council of Europe publications such as the [COMPASS: Manual for human rights education with young people](#) and the Training Kit (T-Kit) 12 [Youth Transforming Conflict](#), which be adapted for an online use during the Youth Peace Week.

²* All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

The programme of the week will be delivered in three formats:

Webinars

Online presentations and discussion with experts or trainers with possibility for asking questions through a facilitated chat room.

Online workshops

Interactive workshops for developing skills and spaces to discuss and share experiences, realities and ideas related to peace and conflict.

E-learning activities

Moodle-based activities and tasks that can be accomplished by learners individually or occasionally in cooperation with other participants throughout the whole week.

The **draft programme** appended to this call is an indication of the key contents to be addressed through the week. The specific daily programme is subject to further adjustments and details. Participants should make themselves available for an average of online work of **4 hours per day** except on 3 and 4 July (free days).

Participants will be required to apply for the programme of the overall week and will be expected to attend all of the planned sessions. They will be encouraged and supported to get involved in the Local Peace Camps which will take place in their local communities.

The Council of Europe will provide a **certificate** to anyone attending 80% of the programme.

Educational team

A team of experienced trainers as well as facilitators coming from conflict affected communities or regions will develop and facilitate the programme, with the support and under the supervision of the secretariat of the Council of Europe's Youth Department.

Webinars will be moderated by trainers of the Council of Europe, workshops and e-learning activities will be led and facilitated by invited experts and trainers.

Working language

The working language of the programme will be English. Participants must have sufficient understanding of English in order to comprehend and complete the application form without assistance from another person and to fully and actively take part in the programme.

Technical information

The Youth Peace Week webinars and workshops will be held on BlueJeans online video system, for which a users' guide will be provided beforehand. To connect from a computer, participants will need a working webcam, stable internet connection, and an Internet browser.

The e-learning modules will be made available on a Moodle-based platform, for which participants will be expected to register and create their profile online. All participants will receive clear practical guidance after being invited to take part in the Youth Peace Week in due time both in email and via the Youth Peace Week website.

Specific technical details and the final programme will be communicated after the end of

selection process of the participants.

Financial conditions of participation

Participation in the Youth Peace Week online is entirely free of charge. The Council of Europe is not in position of covering any expenses related to Internet connection or equipment.

Application and selection of participants

Applications must be submitted by **Monday, 21 June 2021, 23:59 CET** by completing the online application form available at <https://youthapplications.coe.int/>

Further information

For more information about the Youth Peace Week, the application procedure and practical conditions of participants please email: eyc.programme@coe.int

With specific questions about problems with the online application get in touch with Gabriella Tisza: Gabriella.TISZA@coe.int

Other training courses of the Youth Department

If you are interested in a training course in international youth work, but your profile does not fully correspond to the requirements of this activity, please note that the Youth Department of the Council of Europe also organises other study sessions, seminars and training courses with and for young people. For details please consult our webpage www.coe.int/youth or contact one of the European Youth Centres.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Before the week

Introduction and technicalities

- *Technical information about the Youth Peace Week: Opening the webpage*
- *Application process and Selection of Participants*
- *Rules of attendance and 'code of conduct'*
- *Social media promotion of the event*

Timing: Please note that **e-learning tasks** can be accomplished any time; **webinars** and **workshops** will take place thorough the given day without overlaps. Participants can therefore take part in all webinars and follow one of the parallel workshops of their choice each day.

Wednesday, 30 June

Introduction and welcome

E-learning: Introduction to the Council of Europe

Workshops:

- Welcome and meeting with the team and participants aiming to *getting to know each other and creating safe space online*
- Open discussion on participants' motivation to participate in the Youth Peace Week and on the realities of young people in their communities

Thursday, 1 July

Learning about Human Rights and Peacebuilding

E-learning daily theme: Human rights and peacebuilding

Webinar: official opening and the role of the Council of Europe in peace-building

- Introduction to the Youth Peace Week, its aim and objectives, programme
- The Council of Europe - a brief introduction
- Discussion on human rights and peacebuilding with the Council of Europe officials

Workshops:

"Speaking the same language" - exploring main concepts of the Youth Peace Week: human rights, peace, conflict, violence, peacebuilding and building common ground.

Friday, 2 July

Human Rights Education as a tool for conflict prevention and sustaining peace

E-learning daily theme: Human Rights Education and tools of conflict transformation

Workshops:

- Experiencing human rights education based on COMPASS activities online
- Getting equipped with conflict transformation tools (parallel workshops) inter alia on:
 - nonviolent communication;
 - dialogue vs debate;
 - ways to approach conflict.

Saturday 3 July and Sunday 4 July: Free days

Monday, 5 July

Changemakers Day

E-learning daily theme: Meeting with local communities - tools for dialogue including conflict analysis approaches

Workshops:

- Mapping challenges to human rights in the local communities of participants;
- Values of peacebuilders;
- Tools for changemakers in preventing human rights violations, inter alia:
 - o peaceful leadership;
 - o reconciliation;
 - o empathy and active listening;
 - o inclusive language;
 - o critical thinking in the online ecosystem.

Tuesday, 6 July

Human Rights and Peacebuilding in the times of a Pandemic

E-learning daily theme: Human rights and health (based on COMPASS online)

Webinar:

Guest Speakers on challenges to human rights and peacebuilding in COVID-19 times and practices for peacebuilders to address them

Wednesday, 7 July

Inspirations day and sharing young people efforts in peacebuilding

E-learning daily theme: Inspiring stories of peacebuilders and Youth Peace Camp alumni network initiatives

Webinar: 'Youth Peace Stories' - Presenting good practices of youth peacebuilding initiatives, inter alia:

- Youth Peace Ambassadors network (tbc)
- Experiences of Youth Peace Camp follow up actions
- Sharing stories of Youth Peace Camp facilitators and alumni representatives
- Youth Peacebuilding in Academia

Tuesday, 8 July

Preparing Actions for peace

Preparing follow-up actions and activities; reviewing the learning process

Workshops:

- Information on the Local Peace Camps and other peacebuilding opportunities such as grants for youth activities by the Council of Europe – EYF
- Preparation of Local Peace Camps and similar activities.

Webinar:

- Further actions to supporting peace building with young people in the Council of Europe and the role of the Peace Camp Conference.

Evaluation of the Week.