



Info Pack for Applicants



European Citizenship *in Youth Work*

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Co-ordinated and monitored by the
SALTO-YOUTH Training and Co-operation Resource Centre
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<http://www.european-citizenship.org>

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European citizenship: *an intercultural training course*

Why European citizenship?!

There are many ways to look at and think about European Citizenship. Would you like to explore some of them? Then you have chosen the right course to exchange and further develop your ideas together with your fellow participants, trainers and resource persons!

This training course was developed to encourage the development of a critical, democratic and creative European Citizenship as an **active social, political and cultural role to construct a shared Europe** and in doing so, to support the implementation and quality of the «Youth in Action» Programme of the European Union.

The promotion of European Citizenship has been a long-standing priority of the Council of Europe and European Union alike. Violations of human rights and the increasing change of patterns of political participation all over Europe are only two of many developments that have brought the two big European institutions together to work on European Citizenship.

This co-operation between the Council of Europe's Directorate of Youth and Sports on the one hand and the European Union's European Commission on the other hand happens in the framework of a partnership with the following aims:

- ⊙ to make young people and multipliers aware of human rights and the common values European citizens share and to provide them with the skills and tools to enhance their activities in this context,
- ⊙ to train, at transnational level, youth workers and youth leaders as well as other multipliers in the youth field, and
- ⊙ to sustain and widen networks of youth workers and youth leaders; to promote the understanding of and respect for cultural diversity and intercultural co-operation.

The «Youth in Action» programme of the European Commission has made «European Citizenship» a key priority by aiming to "promote young people's active citizenship in general and their European citizenship in particular."

Participants

Committed youth workers, youth leaders and other multipliers from programme and non-programme countries from extended Europe – isn't it a unique opportunity to share experiences and visions of the future of Europe?

Aim and objectives

The European Union and the Council of Europe support and organise a great variety of different educational activities, publications and websites on European Citizenship through instruments like the «Youth in Action» programme or the «European Youth Foundation».

Some activities are run by the institutions or their partnership directly, but the majority is implemented in co-operation with partners such as non-governmental organisations.

All of these activities are developed and put into practice with the vision for participants

«to develop a sense of time, space and place in contemporary Europe, the skills and motivation required to be active agents for democratic change while participating in the building of Europe and to provide the knowledge to make informed and future-minded choices within this context.»

Among the entire variety of courses, workshops, training days and courses all over Europe, this course has a particular role to play as the central training course on «European Citizenship» by the network of national agencies of the «Youth in Action» programme. It puts into practice «Priority 1 – European Citizenship» of this Programme by aiming to

«support the professional development of youth workers and youth leaders by extending their critical understanding of European Citizenship, by exploring and experiencing the potential of the notion of European Citizenship, and by enabling them to recognise and integrate European Citizenship in their youth work.»

The training course has **five objectives to realise this aim**, namely to:

- ⊙ critically explore the meaning relevance and implications European citizenship in youth work in all its dimensions;
- ⊙ promote and facilitate the active use of programmes and structures in support of youth work on European Citizenship, including the «Youth in Action» programme;
- ⊙ experience and explore the potential of European Citizenship for active democratic change in society;
- ⊙ associate the participants with the current discourse on European Citizenship (its concepts, formal meanings and expressions);
- ⊙ exemplify the connection between European Citizenship, Human Rights, Democracy and Intercultural Learning and the underlying values.

Main themes

What is European Citizenship? How can it be used in youth work? What is the political relevance of the concept?

Europe and European identity: What does it mean to be European? How European are young people today? Where does Europe come from? How does European citizenship relate to other transnational identities, such as global citizenship?

European Citizenship in Action: What does it mean to be an active citizen at local, national or international level? Are young people active citizens? How can youth work encourage active citizenship of young people?

Dilemmas around European Citizenship: Why and how should someone be a critical European citizen? What about the world? How can European citizenship become reality under different social, political and economical circumstances?

European Citizenship and Democracy, Youth Participation, Human Rights and Intercultural Learning: What are the connections between these themes, practices and concepts and European citizenship?

And most importantly:

How to be youth in Action: How can European Citizenship be approached in youth work? How can the «Youth in Action» Programme and other European programmes support youth work on European Citizenship?

Educational approach

Our training will address European Citizenship in youth work and all connected issues by means of non-formal learning, **based on your experience, your motivation, your needs and your own learning objectives.**

Non-formal education and learning is different from formal education or spontaneous informal learning. It means for instance, that you are at the training course because you wanted to yourself, and not because anyone told you that you have to be there. It also means that you are responsible for your own learning, while the team and the group support you. And it certainly means that your feedback is valid and important and will be used to improve future training courses.

And, let's not forget that non-formal learning also means facing a challenge, experiencing and learning to cope with quite a bit of stress, but also – lots of fun!

Programme

You can see how the programme flow translates into a structure for the training course. If necessary and adequate, this structure might be adapted by the team of your course – dependent on your learning needs.

Arrival Day Monday	Day 1 Tuesday	Day 2 Wednesday	Day 3 Thursday	Day 4 Friday	Day 5 Saturday
Morning Session	Introduction to the ECTC	European Citizenship	Complexity and ambiguity of the European Citizenship	Dilemmas around European Citizenship	European Citizenship in our youth work Follow up
Afternoon Session	Europe and European identity	Free Time Local Reality	European Citizenship and Youth Work	How to be in Youth Action?	Youth Pass Evaluation
Welcome evening	European evening	Open evening	NGO Agora	Dinner out	Farewell party

What to bring

There are a number of things we would like you to bring along for the training programme as well as the informal moments of our week. They are all equally important and we would like to ask you to **not only read through the list but to also bring the stuff along:**

- a)** some **examples of your youth work** and materials (posters, leaflets, photos, magazines, podcasts, videos, CDs...) for a small and humble exhibition during the NGO Agora. This Agora **should express and visualise how your work is/can be connected to European citizenship**. Please focus on good practice (actions, projects), obstacles or unresolved problems, and future plans or offers for co-operation of your organisation in relation to the key aspects of European Citizenship, such as participation or citizenship actions.
- b)** a typical taste of your town/region and the story associated with it. We will share the stories and taste the food/drink during the common **European evening** on our first full training day. Please don't bring too much and note that it is **not** possible to cook or heat food at the training centre!
- c)** your artistic skills! Can you play the guitar, sing, dance? Have you got any hidden talents? Impress us!
- d)** some cool pieces of music and games from your country or region or anywhere else. Imagine 25 people from all over Europe, a stereo, a room, the need to dance, and a long night ahead... You see?
- e)** endless amounts of good mood and motivation for work and leisure!
- f)** any dictionaries you might require;
- g)** an alarm clock and the loading cable of your mobile;
- h)** any insurance you might consider good to have (health insurance for a foreign country for instance or a luggage loss insurance or third liability or or). Unfortunately we cannot provide any of these.
- i)** shampoo, gel, toothpaste, swimming suit, etc. (but you don't need to bring towels)

Thank you! Very much indeed :)

Again: should you have any questions, suggestions, problems or proposals - please do not hesitate to contact us at any time (simply use the email address from which you have received this infopack!). We will respond as quickly as we can!

European citizenship: *entry points for reading and discovering more...*

Our own web-portal for all things European Citizenship

<http://www.european-citizenship.org>

Perspectives of the European Union

General presentation of the policy concerning the citizenship of the European Union, established by the Treaty of Maastricht in 1992, can be found here:

<http://europa.eu/scadplus/leg/en/s18000.htm>

„Youth – Investing and Empowering“ new EU strategy for youth policy 2010-2018 was adopted in 2009. Summary:

http://ec.europa.eu/youth/news/doc/new_strategy/eu_youth_strategy.pdf

The «White Paper on Youth», followed by common objectives for several policy areas, is an important document for the future of young people and their citizenship in the European Union. It was published in 2001 and can be downloaded at:

http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth-policies/doc26_en.htm

<http://europa.eu/scadplus/leg/en/s19003.htm>

In 2006 the Commission adopted a communication on youth participation and information in view of promoting young people's active citizenship. It is available at:

<http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/06/st14/st14471.en06.pdf>

The Commission has established a website to debate the future of the European Union as part of their «Plan D – Democracy, Dialogue and Debate» at:

http://europa.eu/debateeurope/index_en.htm

And the European Youth Portal – including information on active citizenship:

http://europa.eu/youth/index.cfm?l_id=en

Programmes of the European Union

The European Union runs a programme to bring Europe closer to its citizens called «Europe for Citizens». More information about the programme is available at:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/citizenship/index_en.htm

The «Youth in Action» Programme addresses young people specifically. One of its thematic priorities is European Citizenship. More here:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/youth/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/youth/yia/index_en.html

Perspectives of the Council of Europe

The Council of Europe has gathered extensive experience through its programme on «Education for Democratic Citizenship». More information is available at:

<http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/education/edc/>

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities in Europe (CLRAE) has adopted a resolution on the role of young people as citizens as well as a «European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life», introduced here:

<http://www.youth-partnership.net/youth-partnership/ekcyp/BGKNGE/Participation>

«Making democratic institutions work» is a project of the Council of Europe that has developed proposals on reforming democracies throughout Europe. Read more at:

http://www.coe.int/t/e/Integrated_Projects/democracy/

European Citizenship through diversity, human rights and participation – that was the claim of the Council of Europe's campaign «All different all equal». Find out more at:

<http://alldifferent-allegal.info/>

Programmes of the Council of Europe

The Council of Europe's Directorate of Youth and Sport offers youth NGOs the possibility to hold residential educational activities at their European Youth Centres in Strasbourg and Budapest. The European Youth Foundation (EYF) is a fund established in 1972 by the Council of Europe to provide financial support for European youth activities. Discover possibilities at:

<http://www.coe.int/youth/>

Perspectives of youth researchers

One good place to start exploring the findings of (youth) researchers is the «European Knowledge Centre», a virtual platform gathering plenty of research documents on European Citizenship. To receive the latest documents and most recent research, use the search engine to look for documents on citizenship and European Citizenship:

<http://www.youth-partnership.net/youth-partnership/ekcyp/index>

Perspectives of practitioners

A good place to start reading about European Citizenship in youth work practice is the Partnership's T-Kit «Under construction – European Citizenship» that brings together historical contexts, political discourses and theoretical models with European youth work.

You can download the T-Kit from:

<http://www.training-youth.net/INTEGRATION/TY/Publications/tkits/tkit7/index.html>

Perspectives of civil society

There are many non-governmental organisations that have contributed to the discussions on European Citizenship through their work and their discourses, their thinking and their practice. Our selection is limited and not more than an entry-point – please explore further! Search engines will overwhelm you when entering «European Citizenship»... Enjoy!

Speak out! on European Citizenship

<http://www.citizen.org.uk/speakout/about.html>

Networking European Citizenship Education – NECE

www.bpb.de/nece

European Citizens' Initiative

<http://www.citizens-initiative.eu/>

European Youth Forum

<http://www.youthforum.org/>

European Citizen Action Service – ECAS

<http://www.ecas.org/>

Active Citizenship Network

<http://www.activecitizenship.net/>

Civil Society Network

<http://csn.uni-muenster.de/civil-society-network/english/index.htm>

World Alliance for Citizen Participation

<http://www.civicus.org/>

Civil Society and the Making of European Citizenship

<http://www.cinefogo.org/>

Involve – The Participation Organisation

<http://www.involve.org.uk/>