

Y - S. R. N.



### **INVITATION**

**International meeting: "Together for Social Rights"<sup>1</sup>  
(25<sup>th</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2013, European Youth Centre, Strasbourg, France)**

#### **Respected Sir/Madam**

We (The Youth Social Rights Network)<sup>2</sup> in cooperation with the European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe, The Youth Department, are pleased to invite you to participate in the international meeting – Together for social rights<sup>3</sup> which will take place in European Youth Centre in Strasbourg, France from 25<sup>th</sup> of February till 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2013 (*arrival and departure days not included. Participants should arrive on 24<sup>th</sup> of February and depart on 3<sup>rd</sup> of March*)

The meeting will bring together youth workers and local authorities (elected representatives or civil servants) from the Council of Europe member states working on access to social rights for young people and social policy issues. It will focus on fighting discrimination and exclusion through social cohesion; ensuring that social rights and social inclusion are a reality for young people in Europe while putting accent on raising awareness, at national and local level, on human/social rights issues affecting young people (particularly those from disadvantaged neighbourhoods) through exchange of information, practices, experiences and joint work between youth workers and local authorities.

We invite you to join our mission to create firm ground for partnerships with different stakeholders and services involved in areas which are relevant for improvement of the access to social rights for young people (particularly those from disadvantaged neighbourhoods)<sup>4</sup> to encourage and support cooperation, as well as to improve the network's capacity in order to meet the set aim and objectives that lead to improved access to social rights for young people (particularly those from disadvantaged neighbourhoods).

The participants from different cultural background and characteristics will share skills, knowledge, different realities, problems, experiences and practices from different perspectives and social contexts in order to increase their individual impact. We will work together on analysing real problems that occur in different areas across Europe regarding access to social rights for young people, discuss and define possible responses and solutions

---

<sup>1</sup> This activity is organised in cooperation with the European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe, The Youth Department.

<sup>2</sup> <http://190880087595414018.weebly.com/index.html>

<sup>3</sup> Social rights are those provisions, expressed in legal and other forms, which are necessary for the fulfilment of people's social needs and for the promotion of social cohesion and solidarity. In terms of specifying the content of social rights the Youth Social Rights Network follows the approach of the European Social Charter, in its original and revised versions  
<http://www.coe.int/T/DGHL/Monitoring/SocialCharter/>.

<sup>4</sup> The term disadvantaged neighbourhood refers to areas deprived of some of the basic necessities, such as adequate housing, medical care, or educational facilities, employment, social security and a lack of opportunity.

to those problems and define ways of further support of the access to social rights for young people (particularly those from disadvantaged neighbourhoods).

Your presence will further empower the process at all levels and will contribute for greater understanding of local conditions in the identification of priorities, analysis of skills and resources, and implementation of sustainable change.

## 1. Background

The idea for international meeting was born during the previous experience of the founders of The Youth Social Rights Network. Being part of a long term project of the Council of Europe, called ENTER<sup>5</sup>, the members of the network identified the main obstacles while working on access to social rights for young people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, and one of them was the lack of mutual work and cooperation with local authorities.

Being aware that the concept of social cohesion and youth participation matters to everybody, the members of The Youth Social Rights Network decided to make a step forward and invite youth workers and local authorities on “the same table” to join efforts and establish partnerships needed for better access to social rights for young people in Europe, their inclusion in societies and active participation as responsible citizens.

## 2. Aim and objectives of the meeting

**The aim** of this meeting is to promote access to social rights for young people at local level (particularly from disadvantage neighborhoods) by training and networking between youth organizations, youth workers and local authorities

**Objectives** have been defined as:

- To familiarize participants on the existing European Social Rights standards, policies and mechanisms and how can they apply locally to promote the access to social rights (particularly in disadvantaged neighbourhoods);
- To deepen the competences and the capacity of the participants to advocate for improving the access to social rights (particularly in disadvantaged neighborhoods);
- To create a space of joint cooperation between youth workers and local authorities in improving the access to social rights (particularly in disadvantaged neighborhoods)
- To share experiences, good practices, shortcomings and challenges in disadvantaged neighborhoods regarding access to social rights for young people;
- To develop and discuss the future of the network;
- To create concrete local follow-up ideas on access to social rights in connection with Council of Europe work and support measures in Social Inclusion.

## 3. Profile of participants

The meeting will bring together 40 participants from Council of Europe Countries representing 2 types of actors working on access to social rights for young people:

- Youth workers  
and
- Local authorities  
coming together from same city or country

**Youth workers' profile:**

---

<sup>5</sup> <http://enter.coe.int/>

- Youth workers, leaders, social workers, volunteers, advocacy activists etc;
- to be a member of organization working actively in the field of social rights for young people;
- be aged between 18 and 30 years;
- To have organizational support for joining the meeting and follow up.

#### **Youth workers are expected:**

- To invite local authority representative to join him/her in the meeting and to come together with a member of local authority from their home country;
- To be motivated to participate in the meeting towards realizing the set aims and objectives;
- To continue the work on the meeting's follow up in local realities;
- To act like multipliers in their local realities;
- To be able to work in English and/or French

#### **Local Authorities profile:**

- To be elected representatives or civil servants;
- To work on access to social rights preferably on access to social rights for young people and/or
- to work on social policy issues on local, regional or national level

#### **Local Authorities are expected:**

- To come together with a youth worker to this meeting;
- To be motivated to participate in the meeting towards realizing the set aims and objectives;
- To continue the work on the meetings' follow up in local realities;
- To act like multipliers in their local realities;
- To be able to work in English and/or French

#### **4. Technical details**

##### ○ **Dates and place**

The meeting will take place in the EYC Strasbourg<sup>6</sup> from 25<sup>th</sup> of February – 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2013. Participants should arrive on 24<sup>th</sup> of February and depart on 3<sup>rd</sup> of March.

##### ○ **Travel**

Travel expenses are borne by the YD, in accordance with the financial provisions set out in document DDCP-YP/G (2012) 4 E (for Strasbourg). Reimbursement to participants is normally made at the end of the session. Participants will be asked to present their tickets and other supporting material on the first day of the meeting (original invoices, original receipts, in the case of e-tickets documentary evidence of the sum actually paid e.g. copy of credit card slip, copies of visas) and will only be reimbursed travel costs calculated on the basis of the financial arrangements outlined in the document DDCP-YP/G (2012) 4 E (for Strasbourg) Participants receiving cash reimbursements at the EYC in Strasbourg must collect the money themselves at the bank of the Council of Europe. Reimbursement takes place in EUROS (€) and no other currency. Participants need to be present at least 80% of the meeting in order to receive reimbursement.

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/eyc/Strasbourg\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/eyc/Strasbourg_en.asp)

- **Board and Lodging**

Board and lodging is provided at the EYC in Strasbourg for the duration of the session.

- **Enrolment fee**

The enrolment fee for study sessions is € 50 per participant. The fee is deducted from the refund of travel expenses. All persons attending a session must complete a travel reimbursement form even when there are no travel expenses and pay the enrolment fee due to the YD before the end of the meeting.

- **Insurance**

The YD of the Council of Europe and the Youth Social Rights Network decline all responsibility for any risk that can occur to participants during their journey, or during their stay at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg.

Individual insurance or collective insurance against all risks is therefore necessary, the latter to be arranged by participants. There is a Social Security Convention on sickness insurance for member states of the European Union. Nationals of these countries can obtain the necessary documentation (European Health Insurance Card).

## **5. Daily programme**

Participants will receive detailed daily programme of the meeting and all other relevant documents prior to the event. The draft programme is attached to this invitation together with the application form.

## **6. Language of the meeting**

The meeting proposed languages are English and French. In the phase of selection of participants, the organisers will confirm the need and opportunity for the bilingualism in the course, according to the applications received.

## **7. Deadline**

Fully completed application form (***both from youth workers and representatives of local authority***) together with Letter of support from organizations should be sent to the e-mail: [socialrightsn@yahoo.com](mailto:socialrightsn@yahoo.com) no later than **15<sup>th</sup> of December 2012.**

## **8. Contact**

For further information or support please feel free to contact us on [socialrightsn@yahoo.com](mailto:socialrightsn@yahoo.com), <https://www.facebook.com/groups/socialrightsnetwork/?fref=ts>, or <http://190880087595414018.weebly.com/contact.html>

Or contact Mrs. Vasilevska Trajkoska Biljana (Course director) [bvasilevska@gmail.com](mailto:bvasilevska@gmail.com) , <https://www.facebook.com/Vasilevska?fref=ts>, or tel: +389 71 252 912

