

Fact Sheet

2nd European Youth Work Convention Brussels, 27-30 April 2015

Content

What?

The 2nd European Youth Work Convention is organised in the framework of the **Belgian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe** (November 2014 – May 2015). In this context, one of the priorities put forward with regard to the youth field - is the organisation of a **2nd European Youth Work Convention (hereinafter EYW Convention)**, exactly five years after the 1st one that took place in Ghent, Belgium from 7 to 10 July 2010 in the framework of the Belgian EU-Presidency. This 1st EYW Convention resulted in **the Declaration of Ghent** and in the Resolution of the Council of the European Union of 18 and 19 November 2010 on youth work.

Organisation

- A **Belgian** Steering Group composed of representatives of the three communities of Belgium, of the three youth ministries, three National Agencies of the E+/Youth in Action programme, three youth councils and youth researchers;
- A **European** Steering Group composed of European stakeholders: the Council of Europe, the European Commission, the European Youth Forum, the Advisory Council on youth of the Council of Europe, European umbrella organisations, the pool of European youth researchers (PEYR), the Youth Partnership of the European Commission and Council of Europe, and several related other bodies active in the field of youth work at European and national level.

Main objectives

Five years after the 1st EYW Convention, several developments have taken place in the field of youth work in Europe and the opportunity should be seized to renew the youth work strategy. In this respect **the 2nd EYW Convention aims at reviewing the developments in the field from a new and positive perspective and deliver a strong message at political level.**

Given the agenda set by the Declaration of Ghent and the developments since then, there is an urgent need to map and evaluate the results in order to support the design of a **renewed youth work strategy, its agenda and a timed action plan.** This agenda and the timeframe should consider both the period of the EU Youth Strategy until 2018 and the Agenda 2020 of the Council of Europe youth policy, as well as the post-2018 and post-2020 period to ensure continuity and future developments in the field.

Furthermore, the final declaration of the 2nd EYW Convention will send a powerful message to the Member States of both the European Union and the Council of Europe as well as to the youth field itself to continue developing and renewing youth work. **A new balance is required** between the actual prevailing focus on youth work as an 'instrument' for labour market oriented learning and the recognition of individually gained competences, and the value of youth work for personal development, friendship and emancipation, citizenship, education/learning, cultural expression, the right to play, etc.

At political level, the outcome of the 2nd EYW Convention should be used to feed **a legal instrument on the value and significance of youth work in Europe**, to be discussed by the Joint Council on Youth as the statutory body of the youth sector of the Council of Europe and to be adopted by the Committee of Ministers.

Practicalities

Where

Brussels, the capital of Belgium and the European Union

When

27-30 April 2015

Target group

- About 200 youth workers from 50 countries (Council of Europe) and the European youth work bodies (European Youth Forum, Advisory Council on youth, European youth NGOs);
- About 50 policymakers from national and European level (Council of Europe and European Union);
- About 50 youth researchers and experts (including the pool of European youth researchers);
- About 40 representatives from executive agencies (EU-CoE youth partnership, National Agencies of E+/Youth in Action, SALTO Resource Centres);
- About 40 facilitators, rapporteurs, organisers and logistic support staff.

Language regime

The language regime for the 2nd EYW Convention will be twofold:

- The plenary sessions (opening and closing) will provide **translation in four languages (EN/FR/DE/NL)**;
- Workshop discussions/presentations will use **English as a working language**.

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More information

Coming soon!

www.eywc2015.eu