



## Welcome

This network meeting is a key opportunity to strengthen collaboration among European organizations working with at-risk youth. Bringing together representatives from NGOs, the event will foster knowledge sharing, build partnerships, and advance joint initiatives, highlighting that mental health, safeguarding, and the gender dimension in youth work are overlapping areas that require coordinated, integrated responses to create meaningful impact for at-risk youth.

### **Key Information**

Dates: 21-24 October 2025

Location: Riga, Latvia

Organized by: 35Above & Élményakadémia Közhasznú Egyesület

Strengthening collaboration for youth mental health, safeguarding, and gender equality





Let us share some useful information:

- 1. Dates and Application
- 2. Goals & Objectives
- 3. Confirmed Topics and Themes
- 4. Partner Organizations & the Network's Role
- 5. Why this event matters
- 6. Accommodation and venue Reimbursement of travel tickets for participants & travel budget

## Dates and Application





#### Partnership Building Activity (October 21-23, 2025)

These three days will focus on strengthening existing partnerships and forming new collaborations between organizations. The activity will include expertise sharing, collaborative brainstorming sessions, and strategic planning for joint projects addressing key themes: mental health, safeguarding, and gender dimension in youth work.

#### Conference (October 24, 2025)

This one-day conference will create a platform for learning and debate, bringing together practitioners from diverse fields to address challenges, highlight best practices, and build competencies for those working with diverse groups of youth (including highly vulnerable young people). Through expert presentations, panel discussion, and interactive workshops, participants will explore the intersection of mental health, safeguarding, and the gender dimension in youth work.

APPLY HERE until the 30th of September

## Objectives of the event

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**Strengthen Cross-Border Collaboration:** Enhance cooperation between European organizations working with at-risk youth to create impactful, sustainable projects.

**Promote Mental Health Awareness & Address the Gender Dimension:** Foster understanding of the key mental health challenges faced by youth by emphasizing trauma-informed care and acknowledging the critical role of the gender dimension in youth work, while highlighting the interconnected importance of safeguarding and identity in creating supportive environments.

**Empower Youth Workers & Stakeholders:** Equip participants with the tools, resources, and networks needed to improve the quality of youth work and non-formal learning activities across Europe.

**Foster a Common Vision for Safeguarding:** Address the integration of safeguarding principles, including ethics, risk management, and safety, in all future collaborative projects.

**Share Best Practices and Lessons Learned:** Share knowledge on successful youth empowerment initiatives and provide insight into how to scale and sustain such projects in different European contexts.

## Confirmed topics and themes

#### **PBA (Partnership Building Activity):**

- Accessibility of NFL programs for vulnerable youth
- o Joint initiatives for empowering at-risk youth
- Action planning for collaborative projects
- Trauma-informed care in youth work
- Gender transformative approach what is it and why it matters in youth work
- o Safeguarding: Ethics, Risk Management, and Safety in NFL

#### **Conference:**

- Mental health challenges among youth and trauma-informed care approaches
- o The role of gender and intersecting identities in shaping youth mental well-being
- Creating safe and supportive environments for open dialogue on sensitive topics
- Safeguarding practices in youth work with attention to mental health and gender

## Partner organizations & the network's role

Our open network consists of sixteen partner organizations from across Europe, all of whom are dedicated to supporting youth empowerment, social integration, and active citizenship. Through this event, we seek to create opportunities for these organizations to work together on innovative projects that address key issues such as mental health, gender equality, and safeguarding.

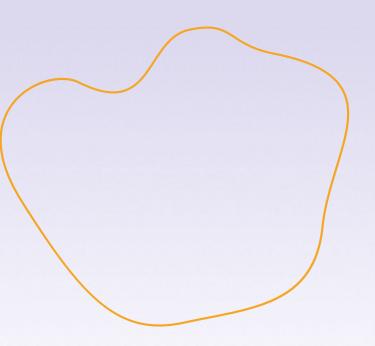
Partners will play a crucial role in:

- Sharing insights, resources, and best practices from their respective contexts.
- Contributing to the development of concrete action plans for joint initiatives.
- Supporting the dialogue between different social groups, stakeholders, and policymakers.

## Why this event matters

This event represents an opportunity to create meaningful, long-lasting partnerships that address some of the most pressing issues affecting youth across Europe today. By focusing on mental health, gender dimension, and safeguarding, we can enhance the impact of non-formal learning programs and provide youth workers with the tools they need to support vulnerable youth.

Through collaboration and shared responsibility, we can shape a future where every young person—regardless of their background—has the opportunity to thrive in a supportive, inclusive environment.



## Reimbursement of travel tickets for participants/ travel budget

Travel costs will be reimbursed up to 100% if you manage your travel within the allocated budget. Please keep in mind that only direct travel costs between your "home location" and the venue of the event can be reimbursed (private traveling cannot be financed by the fund).

Travel costs will be reimbursed only for the cheapest way of transport. Please, take into consideration eco-friendly types of transportation. We can't cover taxi costs. You are entitled to the reimbursement of your travel costs if you present the tickets themselves, including the BOARDING PASS

The allocated travel budget is calculated by the Distance Calculator. Please check it out here. Once you know the distance between your location and the venue's you can check the allocated costs for your travels.

10–99 km  $\rightarrow$  56 EUR (green) / 28 EUR 100–499 km  $\rightarrow$  285 EUR (green) / 211 EUR 500–1999 km  $\rightarrow$  417 EUR (green) / 309 EUR 2000–2999 km  $\rightarrow$  535 EUR (green) / 395 EUR Green travel means car sharing (but at least more people traveling by the same car), bus, train. If you are planning green travel, please let us know!

Please be aware if you do not have the receipt AND the tickets we CAN NOT reimburse your expenses!

Travel cost reimbursement will be done via bank transfer to your sending organization after having received all your travel documents.

# In case of questions, please feel free to contact us.

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