



ECE-LYCE

Engage, Connect and Empower Local Youth Councils in Europe

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

International training course
for Local Youth Councils
**on OUTREACH, PROMOTION &
MENTORING**

7th-12th December 2026
Kouvola, Finland

DYPALL
NETWORK



Co-funded by
the European Union

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ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

The Union of Local Youth Councils in Finland (Nuva ry) is a national youth organisation dedicated to strengthening young people's participation and influence in decision-making. The organisation supports and represents local youth councils across Finland and works to ensure that young people have meaningful opportunities to participate in decisions that affect them.

Nuva ry provides training, guidance and resources for youth council members and professionals supporting youth councils. It also promotes cooperation and exchange between youth councils and works with municipalities, national decision-makers and other organisations to develop structures for youth participation.

Nuva ry's work focuses particularly on:

- Strengthening the role and operating conditions of local youth councils
- Developing young people's knowledge and skills in participation and advocacy
- Providing training, resources and support for youth council members and professionals working with them
- Promoting meaningful youth participation in local and national decision-making
- Building networks and cooperation between young people, youth councils and other actors in Finland and internationally

Through its national and international activities, Nuva ry aims to strengthen young people's capacity to participate in democratic processes and contribute to the development of inclusive and youth-friendly communities.

For more information, visit nuva.fi.



INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE

This training course is part of the **“Engage, Connect and Empower Local Youth Councils in Europe” (ECE-LYCE) project**. It is specifically designed to empower members and support staff of Local Youth Councils (LYCs) in Europe by providing them with effective outreach strategies, promotional skills, and mentoring frameworks necessary to strengthen their local impact and community presence.

This training addresses the mismatch identified between current LYC outreach efforts and their broader local demographics. Recognising that a significant majority of councils struggle with public relations and require advanced skills in digital branding and storytelling, this course instructs participants on how to move past dry, bureaucratic announcements toward dynamic, narrative-driven digital communication. The curriculum focuses on inclusive outreach strategies to break the inner "activism bubble" and intentionally engage historically underrepresented, marginalised, or non-active youth populations. To ensure these diversification efforts result in long-term retention rather than immediate dropout, the training combines external promotion with internal support systems. Participants will learn about structured onboarding protocols, peer-to-peer "buddy systems," and membership rotation models to stop the fragile practice of informal knowledge loss when senior members leave the LYC. With these integrated communication and mentoring frameworks LYCs will be equipped to broaden their visibility to the wider population and build sustainable channels for diverse civic participation.

The methodology is based on non-formal education principles, combining peer learning, group work, simulations, case studies, reflection activities, and exchange of practices among participants from different local realities.

OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING

- Enhance knowledge and practical skills to design inclusive outreach strategies that engage diverse and underrepresented youth in municipal decision-making processes.
 - Develop promotion and communication competencies to boost the visibility, accessibility, and public recognition of Local Youth Councils.
 - Learn about structured mentoring and peer-support frameworks to improve
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onboarding, member retention, and leadership development within LYCs.

- Enable participants to draft concrete action plans to implement customized outreach, promotional campaigns, and mentoring initiatives in their local communities.
- Foster European exchange and networking among LYC members and support staff, sharing best practices and building long-term synergies across participating municipalities.

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

The participants must:

- Be an active member of a Local Youth Council (LYC) or a support staff for a Local Youth Council (LYC) in their municipality
- Have direct experience in managing, coordinating, supporting, or facilitating the activities of a LYC, or hold a position of responsibility within the structure
- Possess a good working knowledge of English to fully participate in an international training environment
- Demonstrate strong motivation to actively engage, share practices, and collaborate within a European network of youth council peers
- Be fully available to attend the entire duration of the training course (7th-12th December 2026)

During the selection process, we will pay attention to motivation and relevant experience, while ensuring geographical representation and, where possible, a diverse range of backgrounds, professional careers, and qualifications.

Important: The activity is open to participants from EU member states and third countries associated with the Erasmus+ Programme (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Türkiye, and Serbia).

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- The activity will take place at Ankkapurha Youth Centre in Kouvola, Finland
- Arrival day is 7th December 2026 (preferably by 6 pm, but not mandatory)
- Departure day is 12th December 2026 (anytime)
- The closest arrival and departure airport is Helsinki-Vantaa Airport (HEL)
- Kouvola can be reached from Helsinki-Vantaa Airport by train, with a transfer at Tikkurila or Pasila station. Train tickets can be purchased through <https://www.vr.fi/en>.
- Travelling a maximum of 2 days before or 2 days after the designated travel dates is allowed; otherwise, the ticket will not be eligible for reimbursement
- In the case of arriving earlier or departing after the designated travel days, please note that the organisers will not cover the cost of your stay for the extra days
- Flight tickets shall be bought only after confirmation of selection from the organisers. Travel expenses will be reimbursed up to a maximum of 340 EUR per participant, including all travel costs from the participant's home to the venue and back
- Reimbursement will be done via bank transfer after the activity, upon receipt of all required travel documents, within two months
- Accommodation and meals will be provided by the organisers. Accommodation will be provided in shared rooms of 2–4 people at Ankkapurha Youth Centre
- There is no participation fee



APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To **apply** for participation in this activity, please **fill in the online application form**:

<https://forms.gle/JoR26VKSvRC4nqHn6>

The deadline for applying is 5th October 2026 by 23.59 CET.

FUNDING

The activity is organised within the “Engage, Connect and Empower Local Youth Councils in Europe” (ECE-LYCE) project, co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union (KA3, European Youth Together).

CONTACTS

In case you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Axel Eriksson at axel.eriksson@nuva.fi or Marija Krstevska at marija.krstevska@dypall.com



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NETWORK



KOMS
Krovna organizacija mladih Srbije

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RYMD ROMANIAN
YOUTH
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