

4 Democracy

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Aims

In the last years a new worldwide movement of activism is lobbying for a different kind of democracy, for a different kind of society. More and more people all around Europe are starting to understand that their future depends on their own ability to be active in shaping their dreams. How can young people get involved in this process?

Through this Training Course we want to empower our participants by encouraging them to take advantage of the different international programmes which promote youth activism. We'll try, in this way, to answer the need for training of young people willing to provoke a change in their local communities. Creating an atmosphere of exchange we expect everyone can get inspiring ideas to advocate for this new society.

Objectives

- Gain basic common understanding about participatory and liquid democracy.
- Get knowledge about different aspects of the democratic leadership.
- Share experiences and good practises about democratic youth participation projects.
- Work on the concepts of democracy, human rights, activism... and the importance they have for young people in Europe.
- Analyse different forms of government.
- Promote cooperation and exchange of experiences between partners after the course.
- Promote the Youth in Action programme and 1.3 action as a tool for creating youth democratic projects.

Participants and Selection process:

We are looking for 24 participants from 12 Programme Countries (Poland, Croatia, Spain, Czech Republic, Island, Bulgaria, Turkey, Romania, Lithuania, Italy, Hungary and Cyprus).

Participant profile: we are looking for group leaders, young people and youth workers (professional or volunteers) who have experience or a strong interested in the topic and are willing to implement local democracy actions after this training. They have to be motivated to learn and participate during the whole project.

Project language: English (good conversation skills required)

We will accept applications until May 15. Selected participants will be notified by May 20. Please do not buy your tickets until we confirm that you have been selected, as we will not be able to reimburse those tickets!!!

Location and date

The training course will take place from 23 to 29 June 2013 in a resort close [Łódź](#) (Poland).

Conditions

Participants will have to cover 30% of their travel costs (up the respective national limit). All the other costs related with the training (accommodation, board, insurance, activities and 70% of the travel costs) will be covered by the hosting organisation through a grant of the Youth in Action Programme. No fee.

Hosting Organisation

[Foundation for Education and Development of Civil Society](#) (FERSO) was created in Łódź in 2003. Our organization is very experienced in projects of democracy and participation for different age groups. Our main activities in this area include:

- An international project to promote youth participation in local government decisions, "One, two, three - you act!"
- Conducting a local NGO Center for Civil and informal groups of our city (training, consulting)
- Keeping the volunteer center for youth and seniors (funded by the City)
- 10 EVS project coordination - including sent and hosted more than 100 volunteers
- Implementation of local projects and international exchanges within "Youth in Action"

We have a staff of experienced volunteer coaches and coordinators. Quality is our greatest value!