

Y-work for Peace?

Budapest, November 17-23, 2014

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

The study session on “Y-work for Peace?” organized by WostAYN – World Armenian Youth Network will take place at the European Youth Centre in Budapest from the 17-23 of November 2014.

Introduction:

The aim of the study session is to strengthen the peace building and reconciliation processes in Europe and improve the life of young people, in particularly, those living in conflict affected communities by raising the quality of non-formal educational activities addressing peace building, reconciliation, conflict transformation.

The activity will explore different approaches, tools and methods of practical youth work (including non-formal educational activities) in field of peace building, reconciliation, conflict transformation. It will also promote T-Kit 12 on conflict transformation¹ and other useful resources developed by Council of Europe, international stakeholders and non-governmental organizations and will help to adapt their content to the local realities of participants. One of this tools – campaigning on-line – will be addressed specifically using the example of “No Hate Speech Movement Campaign” run by Council of Europe². As the study session contributes to the development of the competences of the participants in youth work and non-formal education, the participants are expected to further implement follow-up projects at local level with the support of their sending organization.

The study session on “Y-work for Peace?” is organized by WostAYN³ and Youth department of Council of Europe⁴. This activity is a logical part of ongoing work of both structures in field of peace building, reconciliation, conflict transformation. Youth department of Council of Europe has implemented a number of projects for young people, youth workers and youth leaders from conflict stricken regions. For example, in 2011-2013 “Youth Peace Ambassadors” flagship project was carried out in several stages. It promoted and supported the role of young people in peace-building activities that contribute to living together in dignity and dialogue⁵. One of the outcomes of the projects were local initiatives organized and run by the participants aimed to protect human rights, support intercultural dialogue, encourage youth participation and democratic citizenship processes. A sustainable network of “Youth peace ambassadors” was created at the end of the project.

An annual initiative of the Council of Europe since 2004 are Youth Peace Camps aiming to provide young people from conflict stricken regions with the positive experience of living and learning

¹ For more information visit: http://youth-partnership-eu.coe.int/youth-partnership/publications/T-kits/T_kits

² For more information visit: www.nohatespeechmovement.org

³ For more information visit: <http://wostayn.net/en/>

⁴ For more information visit: <http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/>

⁵ For more information visit: www.coe.int/youthpeace

together⁶. The camp's programme develops the competences for dialogue and conflict transformation activities based on human rights education and intercultural learning.

The Youth Peace Camp project and the Youth Peace Ambassadors project both promote and support the role of young people in peace-building activities that contribute to living together in dignity and dialogue and brings in the perspective that youth work and youth policy can make a huge input in peace-building processes in Europe, especially through its preventive and educational nature.

The [World Armenian Youth Network \(WostAYN\)](#) was founded in 2006 as an international non-governmental organisation uniting national, regional or local Armenian youth organisations, associations and centres from different countries. Its main aim is to support the empowerment of cooperation and reinforcement within Motherland and Diaspora, unite Armenian youth over such concepts as liberty, democracy, solidarity and peace. WostAYN has also implemented a number of projects for young people aiming to help them to develop competences in the fields of intercultural learning, dialogue and conflict transformation within a human rights framework. A special attention is paid for encouraging young people from Armenian minority and supporting them in their willingness to improve the quality of the life of their peers.

The study session on “Y-work for Peace?” will be run within the principles and practices of non-formal education and intercultural learning. The programme will be based on experiences, expectations and contributions of participants and will be circulated after the finalization of participants selection.

Participants: profile, eligibility criteria

The study session will bring youth workers, activists, youth leaders, members of WostAYN network and partner youth organizations from across Europe (especially from conflict and post-conflict areas). Participants should demonstrate strong interest at least in several topics of the Study Session and should be actively engaged in the organizations in respective fields. Participants must be residents of one of the fifty states - parties to the European Cultural Convention of the Council of Europe⁷. The fluency in English and/or Russian is expected.

Priority will be given to participants who:

- under 30 years of age (according to the rules of funding from Council of Europe, but the exceptions from this rule are possible);
- is able to participate in the whole duration of the study session;
- is currently active in an Armenian organization, program or project in the fields covered by the study session;
- have experience of youth work and non-formal education in field of participation, citizenship, human rights, cultural diversity, conflict transformation and peace building;
- comes from the conflict affected communities or/and actively works with young people from these communities through non-formal education in field of conflict transformation and peace building;
- is willing to contribute to the development of the WostAYN network;
- is motivated and supported by the sending organization in implementing local initiatives on conflict transformation and peace building;
- have knowledge about Armenian communities in European countries.

Reimbursement of participants' travel and visa costs

Travel expenses (the cheapest route possible only) and visa costs are reimbursed by the Council of Europe, Youth Department. In order to be reimbursed, you are requested to present originals of all the receipts/invoices for travel and visa costs as well as all the tickets and boarding passes. Electronic tickets will only be considered as acceptable on proof of payment (bank sheet) and on presentation of the boarding pass for the outward journey.

The Youth Department will not reimburse insurance expenses. The participants should be present for the entire session. Participants attending less than 80% of the total duration of the session will not be reimbursed.

⁶ For more information visit: <http://youthpeace.coe.int/Youth-Peace-Camp>

⁷ For more information visit:

<http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/Commun/ChercheSig.asp?NT=018&CM=&DF=&CL=ENG>

Visas for Hungary

Participants that require a visa to enter Hungary should inform the organisers and should have a valid passport and be in possession of obtaining a visa. Council of Europe will issue an invitation upon request.

If the participant has to travel to get visa, the cost of the travel or agency fee can only be reimbursed if the participant has contacted the secretariat of the EYCB in advance and it has been approved. In any other cases the travel for the visa or the agency fee will not be reimbursed.

Accommodation and meals

Accommodation and meals are provided at the expences of Youth Department, Council of Europe.

Accessibility

The European Youth Centre Budapest⁸ aims to secure full accessibility and the best possible support to all selected participants to enable them to fully participate in the activity

Please provide in the application form clear and detailed information regarding your needs so the organizers can secure accessibility of the activity for you.

Participation fee

A participation fee of 50 euros will be paid by every participant in the study session.

How to apply

Please send your short CV and the attached completed Application Form to: wostayn@gmail.com

Deadline for all applications – September 5, 2014

The result of the selection will be announced not later than 16th of September.

For more information, please contact the Preparatory Team at: info@wostayn.net , +37410588768.

⁸ For more information visit: <http://www.coe.int/eycb>