

“LOBBYING for YOUTH WORK”

European Advanced Training

Context:

Given the crisis of youth work in Europe, it seems necessary to no longer just react to and suffer the political circumstances, but rather to try to actively engage in and influence (local) youth policymaking. For this, youth work representatives have to fundamentally change their attitudes and skills. They have to be systematically trained in issues such as policy intervention, political consulting and lobbying.

In Germany a first pilot project to this end was carried out from 2013 to 2015, with positive results. This advanced training course intends to translate the German pilot to a European level.

The aim is to contribute to sharpening the profile and political position of youth work. Youth work and its representatives should abandon their passive roles and grow to become more active co-shapers of local youth (work) policy.

Aims

The aim of this long-term training course is

- to sharpen the profile and political position of youth work,
- to train and qualify youth work representatives/youth workers to analyze political frameworks and situations at the local level so they can influence local youth policymaking through political lobbying,
- to encourage the establishment and consolidation of local networks for youth politics,
- to create a sustainable training concept at the European level in an attempt to re-politicize youth work,
- and to explore European impulses for local youth work.

Funded by

Project setting and curriculum:

The project consists of three training modules each lasting two to three working days:

- 1st module to be held in January 2019 in Germany
- 2nd module to be held in June 2019 in Austria
- 3rd module to be held in February/March 2020 in Latvia.

A follow-up meeting approx. one year after the course will be optional.

The project is designed as an advanced training and further education module and will cover the following learning elements and tasks:

- ✔ Mapping and analysis of the (local) policy field
- ✔ Development of targets
- ✔ Analysis and development of (local) networks, development of action plans
- ✔ Policy development and political consulting

Participants:

The training course is limited to 20 participants from five European countries (DE, AT, CH, LV, BE-FL).

Participants should

- be youth work professionals working at the municipal level and with an understanding of the structures, values and current challenges of local youth work,
- be willing to actively and regularly participate and have a concrete, long-term ambition to change their local circumstances,
- be strongly motivated and committed, as well as willing to develop personally and professionally,
- have a good working command of English (without being perfect).

Ideally, we would like to form “learning tandems” (each with two participants from the same local/regional context). Participants will be accompanied and supported by a national coordinator/coach. At the end of the course, all participants will be issued with a certificate.

Cost:

The advanced training course is supported by the European Union’s Erasmus+ YOUTH IN ACTION programme. A grant is available, however participants are asked to pay an individual participation fee depending on their country of origin.

Contact:

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