

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS



Study session: Youth e-participation matters
Transferring local youth participation in decision-making processes to the digital sphere

Organised by:



Organisers

DYPALL Network will organise this Study Session in cooperation with the Youth Department of the Council of Europe.

DYPALL Network (Developing Youth Participation at Local Level) is a European platform of over 60 civil society organisations and local



authorities from more than 30 countries, that aims to involve young people in decision-making processes at the local level, and thus enable municipal and regional authorities to address the needs and interests of youth, engage young people as active actors of problem-solving and increase the level of ownership, commitment and involvement of an essential part of our communities.

YP Lab is a resource and mobility centre within DYPALL Network with the focus on research development and capacity building in the field of local youth participation.

To realise this ambitious and challenging initiative, DYPALL Network has the following objectives:

- Develop structures and mechanisms for youth participation in decision-making at the local level;
- Identify best practices and introduce innovative approaches to public governance in cooperation with local authorities and civil society organisations active in the field of youth;
- Foster youth engagement and inclusiveness in representative and participatory democracy processes;
- Build capacity and provide technical assistance on various areas and processes like policymaking, advocacy, structured dialogue, co-management, and more;
- Mainstream youth policies at local and regional level (such as youth Guarantee schemes) to develop cohesive and engaged societies.

For more information: <http://dypall.com>

The Youth Department of the Council of Europe elaborates guidelines, programmes and legal instruments for the development of coherent and effective youth policies at local, national and European levels. It provides funding and educational support for international youth activities aiming to promote youth citizenship, youth mobility and the values of human rights, democracy and cultural pluralism. It seeks to bring together and disseminate expertise and knowledge about the life situations, aspirations and ways of expression of young Europeans. The Youth Portal of the Council of Europe which contains an overview of information about the work of the youth sector, the Council of Europe's youth policy, the current projects and activities. On the youth portal you can read more about the instruments of the Council of Europe in the field of youth:

- Youth Policy
- European Youth Foundation
- European Youth Centres and the Education and Training Programme
- Partnership of the CoE with EU in the youth field

For more information: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth>

Study Session

The study session “Youth e-participation matters – Transferring local youth participation in decision-making processes to the digital sphere” aims to highlight the importance of youth e-participation and equip youth workers, municipality representatives and youth leaders with practical knowledge on the applicability, transferability and implementation of different digital solutions for youth participation in decision-making processes at the local level.

The activity builds on the results, experience and knowledge acquired during the study session “W(e)-participate! Harnessing digital innovation for youth participation at local level,” which was organised by DYPALL Network in cooperation with the Youth Department of the Council of Europe in the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg between 27 September and 3 October 2020. That session helped youth workers to develop a common understanding of digital youth participation, map and discuss its opportunities, reflect on the possible standards in digital youth participation and exchange and discover some of the existing good practices in this field. Moreover, that activity opened many questions, for which we would like to find an answer during this

study session and explore the topic more in-depth. The report of that Study Session is available [here](#).

During this Study Session, participants will be able to learn about opportunities and threats behind youth e-participation and examine existing good practices and some of the tools for e-participation during practical workshops. Moreover, participants will reflect on the quality process and strategies of implementation of youth e-participation in terms of cooperation with local stakeholders, community building or sustainability. Together, we will build a list of values and principles of youth e-participation and a common understanding of how youth e-participation can support youth participation in decision-making processes at the local level.

Objectives

The specific objectives of the study session are:

- to discuss and compare the essential issues of youth participation and e-participation such as: access, impact, opportunities and threats
- to introduce examples of digital tools for e-participation and reflect on how to make them more youth-friendly and applicable to local realities
- collect the values and principles of youth e-participation referring to existing models and principles of youth participation
- to vision effective strategies for implementation of youth e-participation process in decision-making at the local level
- to share the practices and experiences of participants in regard to e-participation

Programme

Time	Monday 11.10.2021	Tuesday 12.10.2021	Wednesday 13.10.2021	Thursday 14.10.2021	Friday 15.10.2021
9h30 11h15	Welcome and introduction to the study session	Youth participation through existing models (RMSOS)	E-Tools Workshop Workshop on existing tools with external experts	FREE MORNING	Harvesting outcomes and drafting conclusions
11h15 11h45	Coffee break				
11h45 13h15	My participation today	Good practice workshops of participants	e-Tools Workshop Workshop on existing tools with external experts	FREE MORNING	Harvesting outcomes and drafting conclusions
13h15 15h00	Lunch				
15h00 16h30	Challenges of youth participation in decision-making	External experts – implementation of e-participation	Strategic use of e-tools: how to integrate e-participation and e-tools into the reality of local community in a strategic way	Values and Principles of e-participation	Follow-up and DYPALL Network
16h30 17h00	Coffee break				
17h00 18h30	What is E-participation in light of the challenges youth participation	External experts – implementation of e-participation	Strategic use of e-tools: how to make e-participation and e-tools youth friendly	Personal planning	Evaluation and closing

Few weeks before the Study Session, participants will be invited to a dedicated Discord group, which will be a platform to introduce, exchange resources and consult the organisers.

The programme above is provisional and might be a subject of further changes (for example to adjust it to the needs and expectations of participants).

Profile of participants

This study session is targeting:

- Youth workers and educators working in the field of youth participation;
- Youth leaders and young people with interest in youth participation, Young representatives of local youth councils and similar participation structures;
- Young developers of e-participation solutions;
- Local authority representatives with responsibilities in youth issues.

interested in developing their competencies working with youth e-participation the local level. Previous experience with digital tools, mainly related to e-participation, is not necessary, but is welcomed. Participants who already discussed an opportunity to implement e-participation solutions for youth at the local level with local authorities are especially welcome.

Moreover, the participants must:

- be able to work in English;
- according to the rules of the Council of Europe, participants should be aged between 18 and 30 years old (exceptional cases can be accepted, when justified);
- be willing to contribute with their experience to the Study Session;
- be residents of Council of Europe member state countries; some exceptions are possible depending on the participants' application form.
- be able to attend the whole duration of the Study Session;
- be able to join a Discord group of the Study Session before the activity;
- be able to bring their own computer for the e-tools workshops (although exceptions are possible).

We also encourage and support participation of participants from disadvantaged groups.

Practical information

Travelling days and expenses

The activity is organised in cooperation with the Youth Department of the Council of

Europe. For more information: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth>

- **Arrival day** is 10th October (preferably by 6 pm), and **departure day** is 16th October 2021. The arrival and departure airport are Strasbourg, Frankfurt, Stuttgart or the Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg EuroAirport (alternative).
- **Flight tickets and any other tickets** shall be bought **only after confirmation from the organisers**. Travel expenses to and from the venue will be fully reimbursed according to the Council of Europe's rules, for the most economic and reasonable tickets, (including all travel costs from the participants' home to the venue in Strasbourg).
- **Covid test** necessary to travel to Strasbourg and back are also a subject of reimbursement.
- The **enrolment fee** for the study session is 50 EUR per participant. The fee is deducted from the refund of the travel expenses.
- **Visa costs** will be reimbursed by the Council of Europe. The Council of Europe secretariat will issue an invitation letter that should facilitate the delivery of visas to attend the study session.
- **Accommodation and meals** will be provided by the organisers in the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg. Please note that the accommodation will be provided in single rooms with private bathroom.
- **Green transportation** is encouraged (such as by train or bus), especially for travels that take less than 12 hours.

Other information

- An **info-pack** with further details on accommodation and a detailed programme will be shared with the selected participants.

COVID-19 related information

- In view of the current situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the selection of the participants will be made to secure that the travel rules set in place by France and the health and sanitary measures of the Council of Europe are fully taken into account.

- At the moment, only participants from “green countries” and participants from “orange countries” who have a proof of full vaccination with the EU-accepted vaccines are eligible to travel (Pfizer (Comirnaty), Moderna, AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria) and Johnson & Johnson (Janssen)). More information is to be found [here](#).
- participants of the Study Session will need to follow sanitary protocols of the Council of Europe

Registration procedure

To apply for participation in this Study session, please **fill in the online registration form**: <https://forms.gle/KERAWASTX2CA5SBw7>

The deadline for applying is **15th of August 2021 by 12 p.m. (midday) CET**.

Contacts

In case you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Mateusz Hoffmann at mateusz.hoffmann@dypall.com.