



EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP IN YOUTH WORK

PROFILE AND AIMS OF THE COURSE

APPLICATION FORM

*A training course for youth workers and youth leaders
on European citizenship education in youth work*

Pilot Training Course
European Youth Centre Budapest
19 - 30 October 2003

Deadline for applications

Applications have to be submitted to the course secretariat (see page 8) by mail, fax or e-mail by **10 August 2003**.

This course description and the relevant application form is distributed via the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe, the National Agencies for the YOUTH programme of the European Union and the European Youth Forum.

The course description and the application form in English and French
can be downloaded from: <http://www.training-youth.net/>

This training course is being organised within the Partnership Programme on European Youth Worker Training run by the European Commission and the Council of Europe.

A Training Partnership for European Citizenship

A major aim of the Council of Europe and of the European Union in the youth sector is the promotion of European Citizenship and of international co-operation between young people, youth workers/leaders and youth work structures in Europe. This aim is primarily pursued through the programmes of the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe and the YOUTH programme (2000 to 2006) of the European Union.

These programmes are aimed at the support and at the development and implementation of European youth projects: youth meetings and exchanges, trans-national voluntary service projects, youth initiative projects, study sessions and training for youth workers/leaders, networking and co-operation between youth work structures in Europe, youth information projects, the development of publications and materials in the field of European youth work etc. They involve all actors in the field of youth work and are based on a non-formal education approach.

In the **Partnership Programme on European Youth Worker Training** - a joint initiative of the European Commission and the Council of Europe - major emphasis is put on the quality and contents of the projects which are organised or supported, specifically with respect to promoting European Citizenship, the participation of young people in society and politics, intercultural learning, the fight against racism and the involvement of disadvantaged youth groups. Training of all actors involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of European youth projects is of crucial importance for securing the level of quality, that is desired to take benefit of all the potential that European youth projects represent.

Quality in European youth projects and in training activities goes beyond the technical competencies and skills to successfully organise a youth exchange, a study session, a training course or a pilot project. Quality is also secured through a reflected and explicit approach to European citizenship in the work with young people; it takes a certain level of awareness and knowledge allowing youth workers to integrate citizenship education, and European citizenship in particular, in a manner that is coherent, reflected, and in line with the present realities and aspirations of young people. It also implies the ability (skills and tools) to facilitate communication between young people and European institutions.

It can easily be said that Europe has an increasingly direct influence on the lives of young people. Whether we consider the domain of the European Union member states or the wider circle of member states of the Council of Europe, the influence and impact of "Europe" on young people is undeniable. Youth policies and programmes are an important part of this development.

European citizenship is easy to sense but difficult to define. It implies a set of entitlements and obligations applying to all citizens of Europe. However, the experience of European citizenship by young people goes much beyond formal aspects. It also involves the question of access to rights concerning mobility, education and the labour market, as well as the question of the motivation of young people to actively get involved in the European dimension of their lives. Awareness is only the first step to enter a process.

Youth workers are irreplaceable mediators in this process. Taking on this role implies, however, that youth workers themselves participate in the definition of the contents and practices of European citizenship.

Evaluation of youth programmes and projects within and beyond the Partnership Programme between the European Commission and the Council of Europe has shown that many youth workers and other partners working with European youth activities feel unprepared and insufficiently equipped (in terms of methodologies, information resources and practical examples) to face this task.

To address this issue, a group of experts, trainers, youth representatives and representatives of both institutions (the Youth Unit of the European Commission and the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe) worked jointly within the “Curriculum and Quality Development Group” with the aim to present an outline of a pilot project on European citizenship, which comprises training courses and an evaluation phase. These pilot courses, for the first time at European level, address the issues of Europe, citizenship and youth and allow for reflection on the implications for youth work.

It is expected that as a result of this pilot project, European citizenship curricula will be further developed and integrated as a programme element of other training activities for youth workers and youth leaders across Europe.

There have been / will be a total of three training courses during the period 2001-2003. The first one was held in October 2001, the second one in June 2002. Following these two courses an Impact Evaluation Seminar was held (June 2003) that brought together participants and trainers from both courses. The Seminar looked at the impact the courses had on the professional development and activities of the participants and their organisations as well as some of the projects that developed out of the course. The third course, presented herewith and to be held in October 2003, attempts to incorporate the conclusions and recommendations of the first two courses and the impact seminar.

Aims and Objectives of the Course

The learning objective for any training course on European citizenship should be to develop a sense of space and place in contemporary Europe, the skills required to be active agents for change and development, and the knowledge required to make informed choices within this context.

The aim of this course is to support the professional development of youth workers and youth leaders by extending their competencies to integrate European citizenship within their projects and practice.

The following **concrete objectives** have been set in order to reach the aims as described above:

- A. To extend the participants’ knowledge and understanding of Europe, citizenship and young people in Europe;
- B. To reflect upon and to address key values related to European citizenship, such as human rights, democracy, participation, solidarity, respect and appreciation of cultural diversity;
- C. To critically and creatively reflect about the role and relevance of Europe and European citizenship for young people and for youth work today at local and European level;
- D. To explore the principles of non formal education and their relevance in youth work for European citizenship;
- E. To further develop the participants’ competencies to reflect about intercultural learning and multicultural society and how to translate them into youth work practice;
- F. To become acquainted with the historical role and get an insight of present function and development of the European institutions, notably the Council of

Europe and the European Union;

- G. To enable participants to understand European youth policies and their relation to youth work realities (e.g. the White Paper process);
- H. To increase the participants' professional competence to develop ways of working with young people aiming at empowering them and raising their own understanding and practice of European citizenship;
- I. To equip the participants with the knowledge and competence necessary to make use of existing funding mechanisms and programmes for young people and the decision-making structures associated to them;
- J. To gather experiences and elements for the further development of training on European citizenship in youth work;
- K. To motivate and support participants to act as multipliers in promoting European citizenship in youth work.

Expected Outcome

As a result of their attendance of the course, participants will have developed / begun to develop:

- a critical understanding of the tensions, opportunities and challenges arising from an “enlarging” Europe;
- the capacity to debate ideas of ‘European citizenship’;
- the potential to integrate European dimensions into their work with young people, particularly ‘cascading’ these capabilities to young people.
- reflections on experiences and stimuli on how to deal with the topic of European citizenship, both in non-formal and formal learning environments;
- the competence necessary in order to develop ways of working with young people on European Citizenship;
- their understanding of intercultural learning and its relation to European citizenship;
- their motivation and capacity to enrich and contribute to conceptual developments and debates on European youth policies and on European level youth worker and youth leader training;
- a broader and clearer understanding of European citizenship deriving from the institutional co-operation in this particular area;
- increased knowledge of European youth programmes and the possibilities these programmes offer to support projects for European citizenship;
- a project on European Citizenship;
- a network of contacts and potential partners in Europe.

Contents of the Course

The course programme will address the following key modules (the modules are described by a set of issues, which are indicative and not exhaustive and will be developed further):

Europe

Perceptions and concepts of Europe (historical and present)
Tensions and contradictions in Europe
The relation of nationality, identity, sovereignty and loyalty to Europe

Entitlements and rights of Europeans
A discourse on Europe in the 21st century

Democracy & Citizenship

The relation of a citizen to the local environment, the region, the state and Europe
Democracy, citizenship and identity
Formal and legal concepts of citizenship
Historical and cultural understandings of citizenship
Modern concepts and practises of citizenship
Equality of rights, entitlements, opportunities, duties, obligations, responsibilities
The meaning of power and power relations
Education of young people for citizenship

Young People

Youth participation and democracy
Lifestyles, cultures and life-management of young people today
Which issues concern young people, which interests do they have?
How are young people affected by Europe?
How do young people affect Europe?
Socialisation and education of young people
Young people - a minority with minorities

The *interrelation* between questions of 'Europe',
questions of 'citizenship' and questions of 'youth'

Intercultural learning

Is there a European cultural identity?
The concept of 'culture'
What is intercultural learning?
Values and attitudes related to European culture
Ambiguity: Equality versus Diversity

Multicultural Society

The meaning of a multicultural society
Dealing with differences in youth work
Integration of minorities, 'foreigners', young people

Human Rights

The evolution and conceptual framework of human rights
Universality and indivisibility of human rights
Human rights education in Europe

European institutions

Historical roles, present functions and future perspectives of European institutions
Key institutions and decision-making processes of the Council of Europe, the
European Union and the OSCE
The relation of institutions to the citizen and their policy towards young people
Spaces to influence institutions and modes of influencing

European funding mechanisms and programmes for young people

Philosophy behind European funding mechanisms and programmes for young people
General aims and key objectives of European funding programmes for young people
Specific information on programmes of the COE and the EU for young people

Youth work practice

Present practice of youth work in Europe
Approaches in youth work to European citizenship
Concepts of youth work and their relevance for citizenship development
Role of the state and civil society - conditions for youth work
Quality of youth work
Project development for European citizenship
Quality criteria for youth projects on European citizenship

Methodology and Programme

Methodological guidelines

The course will be based on the principles and practise of non-formal education in youth worker and youth leader training, as they have been developed and implemented at the European Youth Centres as well as in other training contexts. In conjunction with the topic of the course - European citizenship - this determines that the learning process will:

- be based on the intrinsic motivation of the learner;
- generally not imply the control of individual learning achievement;
- be learner-centred and based on the experiences of participants;
- be based on a personal responsibility for learning, supported by a strong group dimension and a collective approach;
- enable participants to apply and transfer what they learned to their youth work practise;
- take into account the needs and motivations of participants and be open to regular feed-back and evaluations;
- be documented to contribute to the spreading of information about the course.

Roles and Responsibilities in the Course

The *individual participants* are the starting point of the course. Each participant will have the space and is expected to contribute with his/her own experiences and approaches to European citizenship and youth work.

The team of the course is responsible for the planning, organisation, implementation and evaluation of the programme of the course. It is being formed at the time of the publishing of this Course Description. The composition of the team will be announced subsequently on the website of the Partnership Programme.

The team will be supported by resource persons, experts and/or guest speakers, who will provide specific input and expertise on concrete issues for specific parts of the programme, such as the European institutions and their youth programmes, the concepts of citizenship, European citizenship and citizenship education, youth, youth work and youth work practise.

An external rappporteur will be responsible for the documentation of the training course. He or she will be taking part in the full duration of the programme, taking an observer role, staying mostly in the background. The course documentation will become available after the course, and it will be distributed among all the key partner organisations of the Council of Europe and the European Commission. It will also be made available on the Partnership web-site.

The Course Secretariat

The function of the course secretariat will be assumed by staff members of the secretariat of the *Partnership Programme on European Youth Worker Training* run by the Council of Europe and the European Commission.

Balázs Hidvéghi, Educational Advisor
Directorate of Youth and Sport, Council of Europe;

Dianna Osayande, Secretarial Assistant
Directorate of Youth and Sport, Council of Europe.

Council of Europe - Directorate of Youth and Sport
Youth-Training Partnership Secretariat
30, rue Pierre de Coubertin
F - 67000 Strasbourg, France
Tel: +33 388 41 23 00 Fax: +33 388 41 27 77 / 78
E-mail: dianna.osayande@coe.int

Profile of Participants

The course is intended to be an opportunity for further training complementary to experiences and previous training for youth workers and youth leaders who:

- have experience of at least 3 years in youth work (as volunteers or professionals);
- have organised or co-organised at least 1 youth project with a European dimension;
- have experience in developing and managing a project with and for young people;
- are directly involved in youth activities with young people;
- are supported by their organisation;
- are committed to work directly with young people on issues related to European citizenship and to initiate a project in the framework and as result of the course;
- are motivated to undergo training and able to attend the course for its full duration;
- are able to work in English and/or French;
- are resident in a member state of the Council of Europe or in another country signatory to the European Cultural convention.

Priority will be given to those applicants who by their previous experiences are able to contribute to the reflections and discussion on the programme contents.

Application Procedure and Selection of Participants

All candidates must apply by using the enclosed application form. Applications should be sent to the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg by no later than 10 August 2003.

The training team will try as far as possible to ensure a balance between geo-graphical origin, different types of experience, cultural backgrounds and organisations, gender, institutions or projects as well as different concepts of citizenship and consequently try to compose a group of participants that represents the diversity and richness of a multicultural Europe.

Selected candidates will be informed at the latest by 5 September so that those who need is, can begin their visa application procedures for a Hungarian visa. Other candidates will be informed subsequently and no later than 15 September. The accepted candidates will receive the course documentation directly.

The successful applicants are reminded that once a candidate has been placed on the final list, they must make every effort to attend the course for its full duration. If, for any exceptional reason, they are unable to take up the offer of a place, they must inform the course secretariat immediately. Replacements will be taken from the waiting list.

Enrolment Fee, Travel and Costs of the Course

Board and lodging will be provided and paid for by the European Commission/Council of Europe Partnership. Travel expenses and visa fees are reimbursed (on presentation of the relevant receipts) according to Youth Directorate rules, similar to those applied to study sessions. For more information on these regulations, please contact the course secretariat.

Payment is made either by bank transfer after the course, or at the end of the course in cash (euros exclusively). An enrolment fee of € 54 per participant will be automatically deducted from the amount to be reimbursed for travel expenses.

Dates, Venue and Working Languages

The training course will take place on 19-30 October 2003 (arrival and departure dates) at the European Youth Centre Budapest.

English and French will be the working languages of the course with simultaneous interpretation. To better evaluate the participants' language needs, applicants are kindly requested to mention in their application forms all the languages in which they are able to work.

Other Partnership Activities between the European Commission and the Council of Europe

A long-term training course called, "Advanced Training for Trainers in Europe" is currently going on within the Partnership Programme. This is a pilot project with a full duration of two years. For more information on this project, please contact the course secretariat or consult the website of the Partnership Programme at www.training-youth.net.

Further information on other Partnership activities can be obtained from either the European Commission - DG Education and Culture, Youth Unit; the Youth Directorate of the Council of Europe; from the National Agencies of YOUTH for Europe and European Voluntary Service or from the website of the Partnership at www.training-youth.net.

Information on other training programmes run by the European Youth Centres can be obtained at the European Youth Centres, Strasbourg or Budapest, or on the internet under www.coe.fr/youth. Further information on YOUTH programme of the European Commission can be obtained from the European Commission (DG Education and Culture) <http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/youth.html> or from the National Agencies of youth for Europe and European Voluntary Service.

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Council of Europe
Directorate of Youth and Sport
European Youth Centre Strasbourg
30, rue Pierre de Coubertin
F - 67000 Strasbourg, France
Tel: +33 388 41.23.00
Fax: +33 388 41.27 77 / 78
E-mail: dianna.osayande@coe.int

European Commission
Directorate-General
Education and Culture
YOUTH Unit
Rue de la Loi, 200
B-1049 Brussels, Belgium

“European Citizenship in Youth Work”

A training course for
youth workers and youth leaders
19-30 October 2003



PARTNERSHIP
COUNCIL OF EUROPE & EUROPEAN COMMISSION
TRAINING-YOUTH

Application Form

Please type or use **CAPITAL** letters and write legibly.
ALL entries must be filled in.

Surname: _____ **First name:** _____

Nationality: _____ Age: _____ Sex: Male Female

Complete address: (street name and number) _____

(postal code) _____ (town) _____ (country) _____

Telephone: Home: _____ Work: _____

Fax _____ Email: _____

Your working languages (please mention all languages in which you are able to work):

English French German Spanish Russian

Other languages (please specify): _____

Do you have any special needs or requirements (e.g. dietary, disability, etc.) ? _____

Organisation: _____

Your role / function: Are you a(n):

- officer?
- leader / board member of an organisation?
- youth worker directly involved with young people?
- decision-maker?

Address: (street) _____

(postal code) _____ (town) _____ (country) _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail _____

At what level are you involved in youth work?

- local
- national
- international
- other (please specify): _____

In what way are you involved in youth work? Are you :

- a paid youth worker?
- a voluntary youth worker?
- other? (please specify): _____

Since when have you been involved in youth work? _____

Please turn over →

List any other training course of the European Youth Centres or the YOUTH programme that you have attended over the past 3 years.

Please respond to the following questions on separate sheets of paper (maximum 3 pages):

1. What is your motivation for wanting to take part in this course? What are your expectations of the course?
2. What experience do you have regarding working with young people (duration, type, content, your role etc.)?
3. What experience do you have regarding international youth work (duration, type, content, your role etc.)?
4. What type of training (if any) have you followed regarding international youth work, non-formal education, citizenship education and/or project management?
5. Please describe the latest 3 projects in which you have been involved with young people.
6. Please describe which competencies you want to develop further.
7. Why does your organisation want you to participate in the course?
8. Please attach a letter of recommendation from your organisation.
9. Please describe your idea for a project with young people on European Citizenship.
10. Other comments:

Visa for travelling to Hungary

If you are accepted as a participant on this course, will you require assistance in obtaining a visa for Hungary?

No

Yes

If yes, please indicate:

Date of birth _____ Passport No.: _____ Issued at (place): _____

on (date): _____ Date of expiry: _____

I confirm that, if selected, I am committed to take part in the full duration of the course (19-30 October 2003).

Date: _____ Signature: _____

***This form including the requested attachments must be sent
to the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg
by 10 August 2003 at the latest.***

Dianna OSAYANDE
Council of Europe
Directorate of Youth and Sport
European Youth Centre
30, rue Pierre de Coubertin
F-67000 Strasbourg
France

Tel: +33 388 41 23 00 Fax: + 33 388 41 27 77 / 78

Email : dianna.osayande@coe.int