



DDCP-YP/ETD 100

Strasbourg, 9 May 2017

Young People's Access to Rights

Seminar on the implementation and dissemination of the
Committee of Ministers Recommendation on Young People's
Access to Rights

European Youth Centre, Strasbourg
5-7 July 2017

Information
CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Deadline: **26 May 2017 13:00 CET**

Background and rationale

The youth policy of the Council of Europe aims at providing young people with equal opportunities and experience which enable them to develop knowledge, skills and competencies to play a full part in all aspects of society. Adopted on 28 September 2016, [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2016\)7](#) aims to "improve young people's access to rights rather than addressing the specific rights themselves. It focuses on improving access by taking steps to promote awareness of the rights that young people should be able to enjoy and what they can do if their rights are violated, and by removing legal, political and social barriers [...]". In order to ensure that the Recommendation on young people's access to rights will be implemented, a roadmap was adopted by the Joint Council on Youth on 28-29 March 2017.

The roadmap invites **member states** to:

- a) translate, publish and disseminate the text of the Recommendation;
- b) prepare strategies, plans or measures to disseminate and apply measures of the Recommendation, in co-operation with youth organisations, local authorities and youth services, including youth centres;
- c) support research and evidence-finding about youth groups facing discriminatory practices and obstacles to the right to assemble, join and be active in associations and trade unions;
- d) share practices and exchange experiences among partners and stakeholders

The roadmap also suggests **youth organisations** to:

- a) advocate for rights-based approaches in youth policy;
- b) support the dissemination of the Recommendation among young people;
- c) apply rights-based approaches to issues and challenges affecting young people;
- d) implement capacity-building and awareness-raising activities with young people about citizenship and human rights education;
- e) to share practices and exchange experiences among partners and stakeholders;
- f) make sure that youth organisations can monitor and advocate for an active implementation, possibly through the format of shadow reports.

Finally, the roadmap expects that the **Council of Europe** (Youth Department):

- a) Develops and publishes youth and user-friendly versions of the Recommendation
- b) Develops guidelines to implement the Recommendation;
- c) Includes the Recommendation and its principles in other relevant areas of its work (youth policy development, youth policy advice, etc.);
- d) Ensures inter-institutional co-operation.

In the Recommendation, the Committee of Ministers also "agrees to examine the follow-up given by member States to this Recommendation five years after its adoption". This means that the Recommendation should be reviewed by the Committee of Ministers in 2022. Identifying and elaborating on ideas to implement the Recommendation is a first step of supporting member states in complying with the expectations placed on them.

In order to prepare the implementation of these actions and, especially, to plan them as complementary and mutually supportive, the Youth Department is organising a seminar with the various target groups and stakeholders. A specific role is foreseen for public authorities and youth entities because they play an irreplaceable role in reaching to young people and in the shaping of conditions that have an immediate impact in their everyday life.

Aim and objectives of the seminar

The seminar will identify and propose possible support measures for the implementation of the Recommendation CM/Rec(2016)7 on the young people's access to rights. The objectives of the seminar are:

- To explore current situations where young people have limited access to rights, as well as responses to such situations;
- To develop participants' capacity to advocate for young people's access to rights by using the Recommendation ;
- To identify the possible roles that different stakeholders can have in the implementation of the Recommendation;
- To make proposals for specific measures and activities for the implementation of the Recommendation and identify potential partners and roles;
- To propose outlines of practical tools such as guidelines and indicators, which later can be used in the advocacy for young people's access to rights.

Profile of participants

The seminar will bring together 25 participants from the following groups of stakeholders:

- a) Members of the [Advisory Council on Youth](#)
- b) Members of the [European Steering Committee for Youth - CDEJ](#). In case members of the CDEJ are not available, they are encouraged to share the call with colleagues who have relevant experience on the topic and are willing to contribute to the seminar;
- c) [European Youth Forum](#) member organisations; especially National Youth Councils, party-political Youth Organisations; youth organisations that are advocating for rights-based approaches in youth policy, or are working with young people to support their access to rights;
- d) Other international, national or local civil society organisations who are involved actively in supporting young people's access to rights;
- e) Public authorities in charge of Human Rights protection such as Equality boards or Ombudsman offices, especially if their work is connected with youth rights.

The Council of Europe welcomes applications from all candidates who fulfil the specific profile of the activities, irrespective of gender, disability, marital or parental status, racial, ethnic or social origin, colour, religion, belief or sexual orientation.

Synoptic draft programme of the Seminar

4 July	5 July	6 July	7 July
Arrival	Introduction to the Seminar Programme and expectations Working methods	Roadmap for the implementation of the Recommendation <i>support measures and activities</i>	Monitoring of the Implementation of the Recommendation
	Introduction to the Recommendation on Access to rights for young people		Follow-up and action plans Closing session
	Lunch		
	Connecting our work with specific rights mentioned in the Recommendation	Working with the recommendation back home <i>Creating guidelines and indicators</i>	<i>Departure</i>
	Mapping barriers for young people's access to rights		
Dinner			

Application procedure and selection of participants

All candidates must apply online, completing the application at <http://youthapplications.coe.int/>

A group of preselected participants will be announced at the beginning of June 2017. The selection will be done respecting the candidates' organisations' priorities, but also ensuring a balance between sexes, geographical regions, different types of experiences, backgrounds and organisations, institutions or projects. A waiting list may be drawn up.

Practical and financial information

Starting and ending date of the seminar

The seminar will begin in the morning on the 5 July and will end with lunch on 7 July. Participants are requested to arrive on the 4 July and depart either in the afternoon of the 7 July or the morning of the 8 July (depending on the available travel possibilities).

Venue and accommodation

The seminar will be held at the European Youth Centre Strasbourg, where accommodation and meals will be provided by the Council of Europe.

Travel and subsistence expenses

Travel expenses to and from Strasbourg will be reimbursed according to the rules of the Council of Europe. Selected candidates will be informed in due time regarding travel procedures.

Working languages

The seminar will be held in English.

Visas

Visa costs will be reimbursed by the Council of Europe. The Council of Europe secretariat will issue invitation letter that should facilitate the delivery of visas to attend the seminar.

Other Courses of the Youth Department

If you are interested in a training course in international youth work, but your profile does not fully correspond with the requirements of this course, you can seek information about other courses of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe at <http://www.coe.int/youth>.

Further information and contact

For information related to the content of this call, please contact stefan.manevski@coe.int. For any other information, please contact eyc.programme@coe.int