



# Training Modules on European Citizenship in Youth Work

2004-2005

## CONCEPT

### 1. INTRODUCTION

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The Training Partnership held three pilot training courses on European Citizenship between 2001 and 2003. These 9-day courses were based on the curriculum framework developed by the Curriculum and Quality Development Group. Based on the need for a higher number of training activities and a wider outreach in this field, the Council of Europe and the European Commission have embarked on developing short-term, 5-day European Citizenship training modules. These modules were jointly developed and implemented with representatives of National Agencies and SALTO Centres of the YOUTH programme.

The introduction of shorter training modules was recommended by the institutions running the Training Partnership as well as the external evaluator firm that formulated recommendations for the continuation of the Programme. This recommendation is based on two main arguments:

- 1) The three courses run during the period 2001-2003 were in many ways successful; however their curriculum was generally seen as too heavy. It was repeatedly underlined by various evaluation reports that a somewhat less ambitious course curriculum should be considered.
- 2) The institutions also agreed that a larger number of young people should be reached through the training activities of the Partnership. Resources need to be channelled into a higher number of less ambitious training programmes, and these should attempt to address the needs of National Agencies and the SALTO Centres more directly.

The training modules therefore did not attempt to address the concept and practice of European Citizenship as comprehensively as before, but rather focused on one important aspect per module. The Training Partnership funded three modules during December 2004 – February 2005. These were hosted by the European Youth Centre Strasbourg of the Council of Europe and it involved staff and trainers of the National Agencies-SALTO network. Now in 2005 we are going to have three Modules in close cooperation with three volunteering national agencies with a co-funding approach. As a longer-term aim from 2006 onwards, it is to be considered whether interested Agencies and SALTO Centres would want to incorporate some of these European Citizenship training modules into their Training and Cooperation Plans. These courses from 2006 would receive educational support from the Partnership Secretariat in cooperation with the SALTO network.

In order to better understand the educational needs of European Citizenship we are evaluating the format, the programme and the results of the 3 modules on European Citizenship with the following objectives.

- To see to what extent the set objectives of the courses were achieved;
- To get feedback on the learning achievements of the participants and the trainers of the courses;
- To examine the results just after the courses;
- To evaluate the use of resources relating to European Citizenship and the special focus of the courses;
- To assess the cooperation among the different partners involved during the preparation, the implementation and the follow up of the courses;

## **2. DETAILS AND FACTS OF THE THREE MODULES**

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Based on the extensive documentation of the 3 training courses of 2001-2003 and a joint preparatory meeting in June 2004 three modules were designed around the following main aspects:

### **1. Citizenship in Europe**

Objectives:

To compare the lived experiences and practices of participants in relation to theory and conceptual models of citizenship;
To reflect on the dynamic context of European society and how that affects the conditions for the development of citizenship in Europe;
To explore participants' senses of belonging in relation to how young people express citizenship;
To develop the awareness and attitudes of the participants for dealing with the complexity of "being a citizen";
To deal with concepts of civil society and to share practices of youth participation within civil society;
To explore experiences of European programmes as: locations of youth citizenship and, as tools for the promotion of (European) citizenship;
To reflect on how to multiply new awareness to peers and other young people;

Number of participants: 26

Team: Yael Ohana (educational adviser of the CoE), Neringe Jucytne (NA Lithuania), Evija Samsonova (NA Latvia), Peter Wootsch (Hungary)

Resource persons: Gavan Titley (Ireland), Sebastian Ilinca (NA Romania)

Documentation: Andreas Karsten (Germany)

Date of the activity: 6-12 December 2004

### **2. Europe: Concepts and Visions**

Objectives:

To develop a common understanding of effective youth participation;
To enable participants to reflect upon the different realities of democracy and civil society;
To explore the role of youth work and youth organisations in various aspects of participation;
To raise awareness of possible ways of youth participation in decision-making processes;
To equip participants to be able to promote participation and active citizenship with young people;
To enable participants to use non-formal education as a means of empowering young people for European citizenship;
To develop social and interpersonal skills related to participation.

Number of participants: 29

Team: Goran Buldioski (educational adviser of the CoE), Miguel Angel Garcia Lopez (Spain), Paola Pertegato (Italy), Tatyana Belyaeva (Russia)

Resource persons: Cesare Birzea (Romania), Peter Lauritzen (Council of Europe)

Documentation: Tatevik Margarian (Armenia)  
Date of the activity: 23-30 January 2005.

### **3. The role of youth work in participation**

Objectives:

To develop a common understanding of effective youth participation;
To enable participants to reflect upon the different realities of democracy and civil society;
To explore the role of youth work and youth organisations in various aspects of participation;
To raise awareness of possible ways of youth participation in decision-making processes;
To equip participants to be able to promote participation and active citizenship with young people;
To enable participants to use non-formal education as a means of empowering young people for European citizenship;
To develop social and interpersonal skills related to participation.

Number of participants: 26

Team: Miriam Lexmann (educational adviser of the CoE), Mikkel Sarbo (European Youth Forum), Erzsebet Kovacs (Hungary), Sean Mc Dermott (UK)

Resource persons: Susie Green (SALTO UK), Renaldas Vaisbrodas (European Youth Forum), Andrew Hurley (NA UK)

Documentation: Laimonas Ragauskas (Lithuania)

Date of the activity: 21-27 February 2005.

### **Statistics of the three modules:**

Number of participants of the three modules: 81

Number of non-EU participants: 37 (45%)

Number of trainers involved including the trainers doing the documentation: 15

Number of resource persons involved: 7

Number of involved national agency staff: 5

Number of all people involved: 108

*For the details of the training module see the documentations available on the Partnership website: [www.training-youth.net](http://www.training-youth.net)*

### **3. EVALUATION**

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We are in the process of writing an evaluation report based on the following information collected during the 3 modules.

- 67 pre-course questionnaires by participants
- 76 post-course questionnaires by participants
- 10 team evaluation questionnaires
- 15 interviews of participants
- 3 evaluation meetings with the teams of the Modules

In May 2005 we are planning to have an evaluation meeting of some participants, trainers and the national agencies that have been (in the first three modules) and national agency staff that will be (in the next three modules) involved in the implementation of the modules.

### **3. NEXT 3 MODULES**

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Based on the results and conclusions of the above report and activity we will implement the next three modules in cooperation with three volunteering national agencies: Belgium (Flemish), the Netherlands and Romania.

The three more modules that have been developed with the focuses of European Citizenship: E Pluribus Unum, Diversity and Intercultural Learning and Human Rights. These modules will be implemented during the second half of 2005.

#### **4. Europe: E pluribus unum? – in the Netherlands (21-27 November 2005.)**

- Ideas and utopias about Europe: a short introduction to the evolution of the European idea
- European integration after 1945: the intergovernmental model – the Council of Europe (history, functions, the youth field)
- European integration after 1945: the supranational model – the European Union (its origins, present functions and institutions, future perspectives, the youth field)
- The European Constitution: the Convention and the role of young people therein
- The relationship of institutions to the citizen and their policy towards young people
- Influencing: opportunities and models for young people
- European Youth Policy: The White Paper

#### **5. Diversity and intercultural learning – in Romania (14-20.11)**

- The Europe of values
- The European cultural heritage
- The concept of 'culture'
- What is intercultural learning?
- The tolerance of ambiguity
- Equality versus diversity
- Migration, immigration and integration
- Dealing with diversity in youth work

#### **6. Human Rights – in Belgium (2-8.12)**

- The evolution of human rights (the Universal Declaration, the European Convention)
- The first, second and third generation of human rights
- Aspects of human rights: equality
- Aspects of human rights: social inclusion
- Aspects of human rights: anti racism
- Human rights in youth work
- Human rights education in Europe