

The <u>partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth</u> will organise the seminar "Visible Value – strengthening the implementation of the European Youth Work Agenda in Eastern and Southeast Europe" on 15-16 November 2022, in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The event will bring together around 70 participants to reflect on the way the youth work sector and community of practice have fared since the 3rd European Youth Work Convention and what structures and mechanisms have been put in place to deliver on the commitments made during the Convention and in the European Youth Work Agenda framework document. It will also strengthen the connection within the triangle of governance (youth research, youth policy and youth work) in the regions. The "Visible Value seminar" is organised as one of the key activities under the European Year of Youth 2022.

Rationale

The EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership has been supporting development of youth policy, youth research and youth work in the two priority regions agreed by the partner institutions, including Eastern Europe and Southeast Europe. To support the adoption of key European policy frameworks and the engagement of all youth sector stakeholders, the Youth Partnership organises regularly thematic activities in these two priority regions.

The "Visible Value seminar" aimed at supporting the implementation process of the European Youth Work Agenda at national and local levels in Eastern and Southeast Europe follows the 3rd European Youth Work Convention and the adoption of a new European framework document for youth work development – the European Youth Work Agenda (see <u>EU Council Resolution</u>, endorsed by Council of Europe's Joint Council on Youth). It will be an important step and contribution to the preparatory process for the European community of practice meeting to be arranged by the Youth Partnership in 2023.

The seminar will build on the results of the 2018 <u>Regional event on the state of youth work and its</u> relevance for youth policy in Southeast Europe, with the accompanying updated study on Youth Work in

Southeast Europe (2022), and the 2019 <u>Regional seminar on the state of youth work in Eastern Europe</u>, with the accompanying <u>study on Youth work in Eastern Europe</u>: <u>Realities</u>, <u>perspectives and inspiring</u> <u>initiatives (2020)</u>.

Research on <u>the impact of Covid 19 on young people and the youth sector in Eastern Europe and South</u> <u>Caucasus (2021)</u> and in Southeast Europe (2022) as well as the new <u>Visible Value library on youth work</u> <u>recognition</u>, Levelling Up – thinking kit for improving youth work practice architectures, <u>Youth Work</u> <u>Essentials</u> and other relevant knowledge and educational material will be shared during the seminar.

Expected outcomes

- Better knowledge on the reality and the needs of youth work providers in the countries of Eastern and Southeast Europe and on the existing youth policy support measures and structures for the European Youth Work Agenda implementation at local and regional level.
- Analysis of national policy frameworks with a specific focus on measures to implement the European Youth Work Agenda and assessment of challenges each country faces.
- Reflecting on the progress in youth work recognition and development in the participating countries since the 3rd European Youth Work Convention, the main issues youth work organisations encounter, and the support provided or needed from European institutions.
- Increased awareness of the support and specific tools available at European and regional level for youth work and for youth work policy as well as closing the gap on knowledge, where possible.
- Better connections among the youth work relevant stakeholders within the countries and to European processes.

Participants

The seminar will bring together participants with different profiles: youth work practitioners, youth work managers, trainers and related profiles, youth workers' organisations, youth organisations, policy makers working at different levels, researchers, representatives of diverse entities involved in regional co-operation.

70 participants will be selected through an open call and directly invited. The organisers will seek balance in terms of geographical representation, gender, bringing good practices or seeking to improve or to develop their practices.

According to the regional focus of the Youth Partnership, the seminar is primarily aimed at participants coming from and representing Erasmus+ Partner countries in Eastern and Southeast Europe. Some participants from other countries and regions may be also selected depending on the relevance of their work and activism in the context of youth work in the two regions.

Application procedure

In case you would like to apply to attend the seminar, and/or present your research, practice or policy intervention, please complete the <u>online application form</u> by **10 October 23:59 CEST**. Selected applicants will be informed of the results by 17 October 2022.

Travel and accommodation costs of selected participants will be covered by the EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership. Please note that the programme of the regional seminar will take place on 15-16 November, with arrivals expected on 14 November, and departures on 17 November.

For questions related to the seminar, please contact László Milutinovits and Paola Rosatelli: <u>laszlo.milutinovits@partnerhsip.eu-coe.int; paola.rosatelli@partnership-eu.coe.int</u>