

Youth Partnership

Partnership between the European Commission
and the Council of Europe in the field of Youth



Growing youth work in Eastern and Southeast Europe: knowledge, realities and ideas for the future

Seminar on the European Youth Work Agenda

29-30 November 2023

Venue: [Hotel Marshal Garden](#)

Calea Dorobantilor, no 50B, sector 1, Bucharest, 010574, Romania

Draft programme

The seminar is organised as a follow up to the Visible Value regional seminar and the Symposium to explore in-depth the context in which youth work is developed, the situation of the practitioners and the way the youth work ecosystem is evolving at national, local and regional levels. The seminar will focus on identifying good practices and building on them, as well as disseminating latest research results - notably through the Visible Value handbook, the draft Youth Work Strategies manual, the review of the Youth Work Recommendation and the two thematic studies on models of youth work recognition and mapping the European youth work ecosystem.

It will also offer a room for an active dialogue about the support needed for a strengthened, structured, and recognised youth work in Southeast and Eastern Europe, and for reflecting on how the Youth Partnership and European level actors can support initiatives in the two regions in the future.

Purpose and expected outcomes

The seminar aims at:

- discussing the most recent research findings on youth work and showcasing good practices, promising initiatives and resources developed by the Youth Partnership and participants and their organisation;

- offering to the youth work community of practice a room for peer learning, networking, and exchanging on youth work development and the implementation of the European Youth Work Agenda, and identifying challenges faced and support needed;
- presenting related initiatives and achievements of the Council of Europe and of the European Union and their Youth Partnership;
- identifying specific support needs on youth work development that can be addressed in the next Youth Partnership work programme, with special regard to Southeast and Eastern Europe.

The event's expected outcomes include:

- dissemination of research findings and good practice on youth work development, collected through the Youth Partnership;
- building capacities of the network of youth work experts involved in and supporting the various projects and activities of the Youth Partnership;
- practical conclusions on the objectives, priorities and support needed for youth work development in Eastern and Southeast Europe for the next Youth Partnership programming period;
- reflection with the advisory group of the Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR) on strengthening the research dimension of EYWA implementation in the next programme and how the two networks of the Youth Partnership – PEYR and the European Knowledge Centre for youth policy correspondents – can support that work better;
- ideas for the next European Youth Work Convention;
- feedback on a draft Youth Work Strategies manual, developed by the Youth Partnership.

Draft programme

DAY 0: TUESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER

Arrivals

19:00 Dinner

20:00 Informal welcome and networking evening

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, 29 NOVEMBER

9:30-10:00 Welcome and opening session

- Welcome and updates by the Youth Partnership and introduction to the programme
- Welcome words by:
 - *Gjorgi TASEV*, Associate for Youth and Youth Policy to Prime Minister, Republic of North Macedonia – European Steering Committee of Youth (CDEJ), Council of Europe
 - *Konstanze SCHÖNFELD*, Tutmonda Esperantista Junulara Organizo (TEJO) - Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ), Council of Europe

10:00- 11:00 Reconnecting – interactive activities Getting to know each other and sharing about recent projects and professional experiences

- Sharing about main research/policy initiatives and projects in the field of youth work development
- Foreseen developments in research/policy initiatives and projects in the regions/countries of the participants
- Exchange about memorable events and achievements in 2023

Sign up for upcoming Share & Learn sessions

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-13:00 Understanding the reality and regional dynamics: “Growing youth work in Eastern and Southeast Europe” – a panel discussion on NGO & Youth workers realities followed by an exchange between participants in small groups.

- *Andrei DOBRE* - Romania, Romanian Angel Appeal Foundation
- *Vesela MAREVA* - Bulgaria, International Youth Centre Stara Zagora/Trakia University
- *Oksana MALCHENKO* - Ukraine, NGO Youth Worker's Association of Ukraine
- *Jasmin JASAREVIC* - Bosnia and Herzegovina, NGO Proni
- *Anna YEGHOYAN* - Armenia, Gyumri “Youth Initiative Centre”

13:00-14:30 Lunch break

14:30-16:00 Share and learn: Inspiring practices

- A. Parallel sessions led by participants:
- *Konstantinos FILIPPIDIS* - Active Youths Florina (Eurodesk Point)
 - *Gjorgi TASEV* - Advisory for Youth to the Prime Minister, North Macedonia
 - *Atanas STOYANOV* – Bulgaria, Phiren Amenca network
 - *other topics offered by participants*
- B. Meeting of the Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR) Advisory Group

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-18:00 Share and learn: Salut România!

Opportunity to learn about Romanian youth work realities with local organisations:

- *Mihai VILCEA* - National Youth Foundation
- *Cosmin CATANA* - Curba de cultura
- *Alina BULUMAC* - The Social Incubator
- *George Adrian OPREA* – Outventure Association

19:00 Dinner

DAY 2: THURSDAY, 30 NOVEMBER

9:00-11:00 Growing youth work in Eastern and Southeast Europe: Knowledge, research findings and good practice on youth work development – parallel sessions

1. Youth Work Strategies Manual by *Adina SERBAN* and *Howard WILLIAMSON*
2. A European model of recognition of youth workers skills and competences by *Jim O'DONNOVAN*
3. Analysis of youth work related publications since 2010 of the Youth Partnership by *Sladjana PETKOVIC* and *Marti TARU*
4. Mapping youth work ecosystems on European and national levels by *Dragan ATANASOV*

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-13:00 Ask an expert - Individual and group discussions with members of the [Advisory Group of the Pool of European Youth Researchers \(PEYR\)](#)

Topics: The European Youth Work Agenda and other themes covered by the Youth Partnership: participation, inclusion and access to rights, youth workers' education, mental health, migration, sustainability, digitalisation and AI.

13:00-14:30 Lunch break

14:30-16:00 Future Steps for Regional dynamics in youth work development

Perspective of young people and youth organisations

- *Andreea SCRIOSTEANU*, European Youth Forum
- *Teodora PANUS*, CNTM, National Youth Council Moldova
- *Ajsa DECEVIC*, NGO Forum MNE Montenegro

Work in small groups

16:00-16:30 Coffee break

16:30-17:30 Future Steps for Regional dynamics – work in small groups (a continuation of the previous session)

Topics: Plans, needs and expectations regarding youth work development in the two regions in the upcoming years.

17:30-18:00 Conclusions and closing

Evaluation

Wrap-up by EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership

Closing of the event

19:00 Dinner and free evening

FRIDAY, 1 DECEMBER

Departures