

# Note on environmental sustainability

We strive to follow the principles of sustainability as much as possible during the Symposium "Young people, democracy and climate action". For that purpose, we use the <u>Sustainability Checklist</u> the Youth Partnership developed in 2021.

However, we acknowledge that organising a large event with participants from all 46 Council of Europe member states and Kazakhstan inevitably implies that some of our efforts are done imperfectly and that there is room for improvement.

These are some of the measures we have taken:

## **Transport**

- Participants were encouraged, as far as possible, to use the shortest route and avoid connecting flights. This implies flying to Frankfurt or Basel, and then using trains or buses, instead of choosing long connecting flights directly to Strasbourg airport.
- **Local transport**: participants receive per-diems for local transport. In Strasbourg, we encourage you to use the trams or buses. More information about local transport can be found <a href="here">here</a>. Digital tickets can be purchased in the app or at the ticket machines at each stop.
- If you are staying at the European Youth Centre, you can also rent a bike. It is also possible to use the city's bike-sharing rental service, <u>Vélhop</u>.

### Venue and meals

- The event is taking place at the <u>European Youth Centre in Strasbourg</u> (EYCS).
- **Meals** provided during the Symposium will be vegetarian and vegan.
- Water stations are available throughout the EYCS to refill reusable bottles or cups rather than offering bottled water which is one way of reducing waste and our environmental impact. We will provide an optional reusable water bottle for each participant.
- Recycling stations are present throughout the EYCS and are clearly marked.

## **Gadgets and materials**

- There will be no separate name badges printed for the event. You will all receive a badge with your name from the EYCS which gives you access to the venue. Please make sure to display it at all times.
- Digital resources, such as agenda, list of participants, event information, schedules, research papers and other communication materials, are provided via the <u>event app</u>. They will not be available in printed format, except if needed for accessibility purposes.
- A limited number of Youth Partnership publications will be available in printed format, please help yourselves if you prefer a hard copy.
- **Gadgets and materials**: reusable promotional materials, such as water bottles and multipurpose chargers, will be available at the event. Each participant will be able to choose for themselves if they need any of the items on offer.
- We will also offer a selection of materials which have been left over from our previous events.

#### **Environmental awareness**

 Providing space for participants and encouraging their active participation in contributing to mitigating the environmental impacts of our event is an important opportunity. Therefore, we encourage the sharing of initiatives and actions that can help us to become more environmentally conscious and coherent.