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Arab-euro training course for trainers in human rights education with young people

1-9 April 2006
Alexandria, Egypt

Presentation
Application form

In cooperation with the Swedish Institute in Alexandria



Training for Human Rights Education

Human rights education (HRE) – understood as educational programmes and activities that focus on promoting equality in human dignity – is of incalculable value in the shaping of societies based on respect for human rights, cultural diversity and participation. Young people being, by definition, the present and the future are also among the first actors in human rights education. On the one hand, they are among the first target groups of human rights education, i.e. activities that promote learning about human rights, through human rights and for human rights. On the other hand, young people are also an important resource for human rights education: they are the carriers, promoters and multipliers of human rights education with other young people.

The Council of Europe, a human-rights centred international organisation bringing together 46 member states, has focussed its youth policy on developing guidelines for inclusive societies based on participation and access for all young people to the possibilities for their personal and social development. Human rights and human rights education are part of the background of youth policy, especially on what relates to non-formal education, the framework of the vast majority of youth activities – from associations to sports clubs. Human rights education has also an obvious and irreplaceable importance in formal education, especially in the school context. The United Nations has recently launched a World Programme on human rights education with a current focus on schools; the Council of Europe has a coordination role of this programme at European level.

In both formal and non-formal education, however, adequate methodologies and trained practitioners are required to sustain and develop the actions of such programmes. Non-formal education, especially because of its non-compulsory nature and its open curriculum, has been the ground in which some of the most important methodological innovations have taken place.

Those involved in non-formal education in youth work should consider the evolution, practice and challenges of human rights, with regard to its universality, indivisibility and inalienability, and what it means to young people. Today, in view of recent events that threaten the foundations of a culture of peace and human rights, a more visible, explicit and conscious approach to human rights education is required and needed. The Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe has acquired a reputation for and expertise in developing educational approaches and materials suitable to both formal and non-formal contexts as well as to different cultural environments. It is in this framework that the Council of Europe launched in 2000 the Human Rights Education Youth Programme. The experiences acquired during the past five years within this programme confirm that the success of similar educational projects depends on:

- the provision of appropriate and accessible educational methodologies and tools;
- the availability of such materials in the national languages of the users;
- the existence of trainers and multipliers who, at national and regional level, can act as resource persons and train local multipliers (youth leaders and youth workers, teachers and other educators).

With this in mind, the Council of Europe produced COMPASS - a manual on human rights education with young people. COMPASS presents background concepts essential to human rights education as well as practical activities and methods for use in both formal and non-formal education contexts. Building on accumulated experience of non-formal education and youth work, the manual is based on learner-centred approaches and provides a framework for developing young people's skills, competencies and attitudes related to human rights education.

Several courses for trainers in HRE with young people have been successfully held in the last few years. Participants in these courses have remained active in implementing regional and national training and disseminating activities on COMPASS and HRE. This effort has been complemented by a programme of national courses, and by the translation of Compass, now available in more than 12

languages. This additional course is meant to sustain these achievements by extending the number of trainers involved and introducing educators, youth workers and youth leaders to work with COMPASS. Consequently, this course will also assist to mainstream human rights education in non-formal and formal education with young people motivating them to form a positive awareness of human rights in their own ways in their countries and communities.

The publication of an Arabic version of Compass was undertaken by the Council of Europe in order to support the work of its non-governmental youth partners in Europe and in Arabic-speaking countries, particularly in relation to intercultural learning, intercultural dialogue and Euro-Med youth cooperation.

Training for HRE in the Euro-Med Context of the Partnership on Youth

The Euro-Med cooperation between the European Union and the Mediterranean countries signatory of the Barcelona process was initiated, among other things, to promote greater understanding and cooperation based on mutual respect, democracy, human rights and intercultural exchange. The Barcelona process, on which the Euro-Med Youth Programme is based, proposed the programme as a “permanent dialogue between young people from the 27 Euro-Mediterranean partners, to foster mutual understanding among young people (...) and to contribute to the process of democratisation of the civil society.” This cannot be pursued without a strong emphasis on human rights and intercultural learning.

The Council of Europe and the European Commission have an outstanding record of cooperation in youth policy and youth work. Recognising the potential of human rights education, the Partnership on Youth between the European Commission and the Council of Europe has, among others, a specific objective of promoting human rights education and respect for diversity. The activities carried out so far in the framework of the Partnership confirm the opportunity and the need to deepen practices of human rights education as an educational approach valid and relevant to all the partners in Euro-Med projects. The publication of the Arabic version of Compass by the Council of Europe provides the opportunity to enlarge the circle and scope of human rights education while allowing reaching new target groups and organisations.

The Swedish Institute in Alexandria has become one of the regular partners of the Council of Europe and the European Commission in the Euro-Med region. The Institute is dedicated to the dialogue of civilizations built on a strong commitment to promoting intercultural understanding in view of rebuilding the trust between the peoples of Europe and the Arab world. Human rights and the different practices of human rights education are, naturally, one of the most fertile grounds where intercultural exchange and cooperation can be rooted into.

A regional programme of training for human rights education

The Council of Europe and the European Commission have organised a first workshop for Arabic-speaking trainers using Compass in 2005. The workshop was very successful and confirmed the needs expressed by other partners in Arabic-speaking countries that Compass can be a very important tool to support human rights development. Similar to the process being set in Europe, the role of Compass as a catalyser of human rights and human rights education activities depends on the existence of trainers and educators at national level who will be able to use it and train other people to use it and disseminate it as suits their need. The purpose is, obviously, not to “promote” Compass but rather to promote human rights education using Compass as a starting point. Compass in Arabic is available in PDF files at www.coe.int/compass.

A programme of three sub-regional courses is thus being implemented with local partners in order to secure the highest possible multiplying effect. In addition to this course, two others are foreseen in Jordan and Morocco.

Aims of the training course

This training workshop aims to develop the competence of Arabic-speaking trainers in working with human rights education at national and regional level and to enable them to act as trainers or multipliers for human rights education using Compass.

Objectives

- To explore the role of human rights education in promoting intercultural dialogue and cooperation;
- To develop the trainers' knowledge and competence in key concepts of human rights education with young people;
 - To familiarise the participants with the approaches and activities of COMPASS (the manual on human rights education with young people) and with how best to use it and adapt it to local contexts and realities;
 - To review and address the essential competencies, skills and attitudes for trainers working with human rights education;
 - To explore the specificities and points of commonality in the practice of human rights education in the different countries and educational contexts represented in the course;
 - To plan activities for disseminating COMPASS at national and local level;
 - To contribute to the development of a Euro-Mediterranean informal network of trainers and organisations on human rights education with young people;
 - To contribute to the mainstreaming of human rights education in the activities of the Euro-Med Youth programme.

Methodology and Programme

The workshop is designed to give participants the opportunity to experience and reflect upon activities and concepts central to human rights education based on experiential learning approaches. The workshop is also designed as a mutual learning process, where participants can compare their approaches to training and to human rights education in European and Arabic-speaking countries in a dialogical intercultural approach and environment. Contributions from experts in the field of human rights will establish a theoretical framework and a common reference point for learning and communication, and there will be an opportunity to try out and evaluate some of the activities in COMPASS.

A diversity of working methods will be used for learning about human rights and the approaches proposed in COMPASS. The previous experience of participants, as trainers or educators, should be the starting point of the programme and of the learning process.

The programme of the workshop will include:

- A review of the evolution of human rights education and the present challenges it faces in the participants' countries;
- An introduction to the approaches and structure of COMPASS, the manual on human rights education with young people;
- An analysis of the competencies, skills and values of trainers working with human rights education;
- Opportunities to share experiences and challenges of developing human rights education in formal and in non-formal education settings;
- Practical workshops on skills and attitudes essential to human rights education;

- Opportunities to experiment with and to evaluate different methods and activities found in COMPASS;
- Planning follow up activities and projects in view of sustaining the practice of human rights education.

Profile of the participants

This workshop is designed for participants who are or act as:

- Trainers active in non-formal education, especially within youth organisations and associations, in youth work activities and in other NGOs concerned with human rights education
- Trainers and multipliers active within formal education systems and interested in non-formal educational approaches and practices.

All participants should:

- Be supported by a local, national or international organisation/ institution
- Have experience in working as trainers or educators with young people
- Be able and committed to act as multipliers or trainers for human rights education after the course
- Be motivated to develop their knowledge and competence in human rights education and to share their experiences with other participants
- Be able to work in Arabic
- Be committed to attend the entire duration of the workshop

NB: This training course is open for participants from **Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Yemen**, and the **Gulf states** and for participants from the member states of the **Council of Europe** (including all the member states of the **European Union**).

Financial and practical conditions of participation

Travel expenses

Travel expenses and visa fees are reimbursed (on presentation of the relevant receipts) according to the rules of the Council of Europe. Only the participants who attend the entire training workshop can be reimbursed. The payment will be made either by bank transfer after the workshop, or at the end of the workshop in cash.

Accommodation

Board and lodging will be provided for the period of the workshop and paid for by the Swedish Institute in Alexandria.

Enrolment fee

An enrolment fee of **20 Euros** is payable by each participant. This amount will be deducted from the amount to be reimbursed for travel expenses. Participants from Egypt are exempted from this fee.

Application procedure and selection of participants

All candidates must apply using the enclosed application form. Applications should be sent to the **course secretariat** at the Council of Europe's European Youth Centre Budapest, together with a **letter of support** from their sending organisation or institution stating the added value for the organisation resulting from the applicant's participation in the training course. **All applications must be filled in English.**

The preparatory team will select thirty participants on the basis of the profile outlined above and ensuring a balanced group (gender, geographical regions, different types of experiences, and organisations). A waiting list may be established. Candidates will be informed about whether their application has been accepted or rejected, and if they have been put on the waiting list, **by 15 March 2006**.

Deadline for applications

The application form must be sent to the address below by **24 February 2006**.

Team of trainers

The programme of the workshop is designed and conducted by an Arabic speaking team of experienced trainers. They will be supplemented by local resource experts for specific parts of the workshop.



European Youth Centre Budapest

Zivatar utca 1-3. H-1024 BUDAPEST, Hungary

Fax: + 36 1 212 40 76 Tel: + 36 1 438 1030

Email: marzia.conte@coe.int

**Arab-euro training course for trainers
in human rights education with young people**
Alexandria, Egypt, 1-9 April 2006

APPLICATION FORM

Please type or write legibly in ENGLISH

I. INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANT

1. Name:

Sex: Male/Female

Age:

Nationality:

Working languages (*please specify all your working languages*):

Arabic English Others (specify):

Main profession or occupation:

2. Contacts – *Please note that all correspondence will be sent to this address, so please ensure it is complete!*

Postal address (street, number, city, postal code, country):

Telephone:

Telefax:

Mobile telephone:

e-mail:

II. INFORMATION ON THE ORGANISATION/INSTITUTION

3. Sending organisation/institution

Name:

Postal address:

Telephone:

Telefax:

E-mail:

Internet address:

Please describe briefly the scope and main activities of the organisation/institution and its relation to human rights education:

4. Your organisation/institution is...

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> an International youth organisation | <input type="checkbox"/> a national youth council |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a national youth organisation | <input type="checkbox"/> a local/regional youth organisation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a governmental institution | <input type="checkbox"/> a formal education institute |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a Human Rights organisation | <input type="checkbox"/> a minority or minority rights association |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify): | |

5. What is your function or role in the organisation/institution?

III. EXPERIENCE AS A TRAINER

6. In what capacity are you involved in training, youth work or human rights education?

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time free-lance trainer | <input type="checkbox"/> Part-time free-lance trainer | <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional trainer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time (employed) trainer | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth worker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher trainer | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>): |

7. What kind of education and training activities are you involved in? (Please indicate briefly the target groups and themes or aims of the activities)

8. What type of training have you received in youth work or human rights education?

9. Have you attended any other youth activity of the Council of Europe or the European Commission in the past two years? (If yes, which one(s)?):

IV. MOTIVATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

10. Your motivation and reasons for wanting to take part in this workshop:

11. Your training needs – what would you like or do you need to learn on the workshop?

12. Follow-up and implementation

In which ways do you expect to be active in training for human rights education with young people?
(Please provide details about expected or planned projects, training activities, organisers and target groups and attach any relevant supplementary information, if available)

V. PRACTICAL

Special needs: Have you any special needs or requirements that the organisers should take into account (e.g. dietary, disability, etc.)?

Date:

Signature:

This form must be sent- together with a **support letter** (in English) of the sending organisation/institution - to the European Youth Centre Budapest

Before 24 February 2006

EUROPEAN YOUTH CENTRE BUDAPEST

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