



Covenant on Euro-Med Youth Training



YOUTH PROGRAMME
Education and Culture
EUROPEAN COMMISSION



North-South Centre
Council of Europe



Intercultural learning and human rights education in the Mediterranean area

A training course for youth workers active in Euro-Med youth projects to further integrate human rights education and intercultural learning in their work

20-28 May 2003
European Youth Centre Budapest

**Presentation
of the course**

Application form

Preparing future generations for closer co-operation among the Euro-Mediterranean partners

It has become a commonplace to state that the history of Europe has been shaped by the exchanges and interaction between peoples and cultures across the Mediterranean Sea. What is less obvious at present is to what extent and in which ways and in which spirit such exchanges will happen in the future.

The interdependence among peoples and societies bordering the Mediterranean is often stated as a political objective by all those concerned but it often fails to materialise in practical, tangible terms. Instead of co-operation, young people are often confronted with suspicion, mistrust, borders and barriers, obstacles to mobility and youth exchanges that are as much the result of a “fortress Europe” mentality as of typical forms of xenophobia, prejudice and ignorance about each other. Yet, young people are crucial for the future of Euro-Mediterranean co-operation.

The Euro-Mediterranean Youth Action programme of the European Commission was initiated in 1999 and is based on the shared concern to combat prejudices and stereotypes that prevail across the Mediterranean and keep determining mutual perceptions. The Commission’s resolve to increase dialogue and co-operation across the Mediterranean finds its roots in the Barcelona Process that involved the 15 EU Member States and 12 Mediterranean partner countries.

For the Council of Europe, the promotion of human rights and the development of democratic forms of participation are crucial objectives to further consolidate pan-European co-operation. The promotion of peace, co-operation and human rights in Europe, however, cannot be disconnected from the realities around Europe, in particular across the Mediterranean. Both the North-South Centre and the Directorate of Youth and Sports have developed programmes and projects that address issues of common concern for young people across the region, notably the Euro-Arab dialogue, global education projects, and a first course on human rights education in youth projects, held in 2002 at the European Youth Centre.

It is within this framework that the Council of Europe and the European Commission have agreed to develop together a two-year covenant on Euro-Med youth training aimed at:

providing further quality training and learning opportunities for youth workers and youth leaders active in Euro-Mediterranean projects, based on intercultural learning, citizenship and the participation of young people and human rights education.

The activities in this covenant are complementary to the activities of both organisations, notably the activities of the Euro-Med Salto centre.

Intercultural learning and human rights education: the background and starting points for co-operation

Intercultural learning has been the basis for the youth work and co-operation within the Council of Europe and it has strongly shaped the contents of training activities with young people and youth workers. Intercultural learning, as one of the bases for dialogue, co-operation and solidarity, has far-reaching methodological, social and educational aims that are of utmost importance in the shaping of mutual perceptions. It also has important practical implications in the design, contents and methodologies in non-formal educational activities, such as youth exchanges.

On the other hand, human rights education, understood as educational programmes and activities that focus on promoting equality in human dignity, is of incalculable value in the shaping of shared sets of values and aspirations, reaching above cultural backgrounds and traditions. Euro-Med youth activities should also consider the evolution, practice and challenges of human rights, with regard to their universality, indivisibility and inalienability, and what they mean to young people today.

This training course addresses youth workers and youth leaders, as they are the carriers of experience of both youth work and young people in all the countries concerned, and because of their role as multipliers. The course may also provide a context for the development of joint projects. It will make use of the best practices of the co-operating institutions in the field of intercultural learning and human rights education. It is envisaged, for example, that the Arabic version of *COMPASS*, the manual on human rights education with young people, will be made available for the course.

Aims of the course

This training course aims to enable youth workers and youth leaders active or interested in Euro-Mediterranean youth projects to develop intercultural learning and human rights education with young people, and to initiate common projects in these fields.

Objectives of the course

- To develop the participants' knowledge and competence in key concepts of intercultural learning, global education and human rights education with young people;
- To develop a common understanding of the situations and challenges faced by young people across the Mediterranean;
- To provide tools for analysis of the present challenges to closer co-operation among partners across the Mediterranean, including xenophobia and racism, prejudice and ignorance, social exclusion and poverty, and unequal opportunities for social and political participation;
- To familiarise the participants with the approaches and activities of *COMPASS* (the manual on human rights education with young people) and on how best to use it and adapt it to their local contexts and realities;
- To provide information about existing possibilities and conditions for the development of Euro-Med youth co-operation projects;
- To identify common criteria and approaches for follow-up projects and initiatives and to support participants in developing them;
- To develop an informal network of youth workers and youth leaders in the European and Mediterranean regions.

Methodology and Programme

The experiences and realities of participants, as youth workers, youth leaders or educators, will be the starting point of the programme and of the learning process. The course is designed to give participants the opportunity to experience and reflect upon the issues of intercultural dialogue and solidarity using the group of participants, their experiences and perceptions as the basis for learning together and developing common projects. The course will thus be a mutual learning situation, where participants can compare their approaches and concerns in a dialogical intercultural approach and environment.

Contributions from experts in the field of human rights and intercultural learning will provide common reference points for learning and communication. The use of experiential methods, including activities from *COMPASS*, will strengthen the practical side of the course and will also provide concrete examples of work.

Towards the end of the course, participants should be able to imagine and design common co-operation projects. Information on existing funding possibilities within the Council of Europe and the European Commission will be provided for this purpose.

The detailed programme of the course will be sent to successful applicants.

Profile of the participants

This course is open to:

- Youth workers or youth leaders (paid or voluntary) active with young people within the framework of formal or informal associations, groups and projects;

and

- Educators and project leaders, in a broad sense of the term, i.e. those carrying out non-formal educational activities with young people in any form;

who are:

- motivated to work and to develop projects with a Euro-Mediterranean perspective;
- interested in developing their competence in the themes of the course;
- resident in one of the 48 European countries who are members of the European Cultural Convention or in a non-European Mediterranean country or territory;
- aged between 18 and 35 (exceptions are possible);
- able to work in English and/or in Arabic.

Team of trainers

The programme of the course will be designed and conducted by a multicultural team of experienced trainers, who will also be representative of the geographical and cultural framework of the course. They will be supplemented, whenever necessary, by experts and speakers for specific parts of the programme.

Application procedure and selection of participants

All candidates must apply using the enclosed application form. Applications should be sent to the North-South Centre, together with a letter of support from their sponsoring organisation or institution, if possible.

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, cultural backgrounds and organisations). A waiting list may be established. We aim for a balanced group of European and non-European participants.

Candidates will be informed about whether their application has been accepted or rejected, and if they have put on the waiting list, by mid-April 2003. The accepted candidates will receive further information and formal invitations.

Deadline for applications

The application form must be sent to the North-South Centre by **15 March 2003**.

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 costs of those participants who attend the entire training course can be reimbursed. The payment will be made either by bank transfer after the course, or in cash (in Euros) at the end of the course.

Accommodation

Board and lodging are provided and paid for by the Council of Europe.

Enrolment fee

An enrolment fee of **20 Euros** is payable by each participant. This amount will either be deducted from the amount to be reimbursed for travel expenses or paid at the EYCB during the course.

Other Training Courses on Euro-Med, intercultural learning and human rights education

The *Covenant on Euro-Med training* between the European Commission and the Council of Europe provides for other activities in 2003 and 2004, such as a long-term training course on youth participation and cultural exchange (2003), a training course for trainers (2004) and a course on the participation of women and minorities (2004). Please consult the Internet sites of the Directorate of Youth and Sport and of the North-South Centre for updated information.

The *Euro-Med Salto Centre* is the main organiser of training activities within the Euro-Med Youth Action Programme of the European Commission. Please see <http://www.salto-youth.net/tceuromed/> for details of their programme.

The *Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe* provides training and support for intercultural dialogue and conflict resolution, including a long-term training course on intercultural learning and a training course on conflict resolution. See <http://www.coe.int/youth> for more information. Information about **Human Rights Education** training activities and pilot projects may also be found at <http://www.coe.int/hre>.

The *North-South Centre* provides courses and activities on inter-regional co-operation and global education. <http://www.nsc.coe.int>



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EYC Budapest, 20-28 May 2003

APPLICATION FORM

Please type or use CAPITAL letters and write legibly. If necessary, please attach an extra sheet.

I. Information About The Applicant

1. Name:

Sex: Male/Female Age: Nationality:

Working languages (*please specify all your working languages*):
 English Arabic French 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 About The Applicant's Organisation Or Group

3. Sponsoring organisation/institution

Name:

Postal address:

Telephone: Telefax:

e-mail: Internet address:

Please describe briefly the scope and main activities of the organisation/institution:

4. Your organisation/institution is...

an international youth organisation a national youth council
 a national youth organisation a local/regional youth organisation
 a governmental institution a formal education institute
 a national agency of the "Youth" programme
 a human rights association a minority or minority rights association
 an informal youth group other (please specify):

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

III. Your Experience with the themes of the course

<p>6. In what capacity are you involved in youth work or non-formal education?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Full time youth worker <input type="checkbox"/> Trainer of youth workers or youth leaders</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer youth worker <input type="checkbox"/> Youth worker</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Leader of a youth group or association</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>):</p>
<p>7. What kind of youth work activities are you involved in? (<i>please indicate briefly the target groups and type of activities</i>)</p>
<p>8. What is your experience in intercultural learning and/or human rights education?</p>
<p>9. Have you attended, or applied for, any other training course of the Directorate of Youth, North-South Centre of the (Salto) Euro-Med programme in the past two years? (<i>if yes, which one(s)?</i>):</p>
<p>10. What kind of training have you received for your current functions in youth work (if any)?</p>

IV. Motivation And Expectations

<p>11. What are your reasons and motivation for wanting to take part in this course:</p>
<p>12. Your training needs – what would you like or do you need to learn on the course?</p>

13. Follow-up and implementation

In which ways do you expect to be active in the follow-up of the course? *(Please provide details about expected or planned projects or previous similar experience)*

14. Outcomes for the Human Rights Education Youth Programme

In which ways do you think your participation will contribute to the implementation and development of intercultural dialogue and human rights education in the framework of Mediterranean co-operation?

V. PRACTICAL

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

Visa - If you are accepted as a participant on this course, will you require assistance in obtaining a visa to Hungary? If yes, please indicate:

Your date of birth:

Passport No.:

Issued at (place):

Issued on (date):

Date of expiry:

Date:

Signature:

This form must be sent - together with a **supporting letter** from the sponsoring organisation/institution (if possible) - to the North-South Centre

Before 15 March 2003.

NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE

Council of Europe

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