



Training Modules on European Citizenship

2004-2005

COURSE DESCRIPTION

1. Rationale & Framework

One of the aims of the Council of Europe and of the European Union in the youth sector is the promotion of European Citizenship and of international co-operation between young people, youth workers/leaders and youth work structures in Europe. This aim is primarily pursued through the programmes of the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe and the YOUTH Programme (2000 to 2006) of the European Union. These programmes support the development and implementation of European youth projects: youth meetings and exchanges, trans-national voluntary service projects, youth initiative projects, study sessions and training for youth workers/leaders, networking and co-operation between youth work structures in Europe, youth information projects, the development of publications, etc. They involve all actors in the field of youth work and are based on a non-formal education approach.

The **Partnership Programme on European Youth Worker Training** (the Partnership) is a joint initiative of the Council of Europe and the European Commission. The two institutions decided to take common action in this field several years ago, and have since renewed their cooperation. The aim of the Agreement is

"to promote active European citizenship and civil society by giving impetus to the training of youth leaders and youth workers working within a European dimension".

The cooperation between the two institutions covers a wide spectrum of activities and publications, as well as developing tools for further networking. Three main components govern the partnership: a training offer, publications (both paper and electronic versions of training materials and magazine) and networking tools (trainers pool and exchange possibilities). The ultimate goal is to raise standards in youth worker training at a European level and define quality criteria for such training.

Europe has an increasingly direct influence on the lives of young people. Whether we consider the domain of the European Union member states or the wider circle of member states of the Council of Europe, the influence and impact of "Europe" on young people is undeniable. Youth policies and programmes are an important part of this development. European citizenship implies a set of entitlements and obligations applying to all citizens of Europe. However, the experience of European citizenship by young people goes much beyond formal aspects. It also involves the question of access to rights concerning mobility, education and the labour market, as well as the question of the motivation of young people to actively get involved in the European dimension of their lives. Awareness is only the first step to enter a process. Youth workers are irreplaceable mediators in this process. Taking on this role implies, however, that youth workers themselves participate in the definition of the contents and practices of European citizenship.

Evaluation of youth programmes and projects within and beyond the Partnership Programme between the European Commission and the Council of Europe has shown that many youth workers and other partners working with European youth activities feel unprepared and insufficiently equipped (in terms of methodologies, information resources and practical examples) to face this task.

The Partnership held several pilot training courses on European Citizenship between 2001 and 2003. Based on the need for a higher number of training activities and a wider outreach in this field, the Council of Europe and the European Commission have embarked on developing **short-term European Citizenship training modules**. These modules have been jointly developed by representatives of the Council of Europe and the National Agencies and SALTO Centres of the YOUTH programme as well as trainers.

The Training Partnership will hold the first 3 training modules between December 2004 and February 2005. Each of these will be hosted by the European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. They will actively involve staff and trainers of the Council of Europe, the National Agencies-SALTO network, the European Youth Forum as well as some former participants of European Citizenship courses.

Each training module **focuses on one important aspect of the concept and practice of European Citizenship**. There will be common elements that all of the modules address, and there will be a specific focus for each of them.

2. General Aim & Objectives

The learning objective for any training course on European citizenship should be to develop a sense of space and place in contemporary Europe, the skills required to be active agents for change and development, and the knowledge required to make informed choices within this context.

Aim of the training modules

The aim of the training modules is to support the professional development of youth workers and youth leaders by extending their competencies to integrate *elements of* European citizenship within their projects and practice and support their role as multipliers with young people.

Objectives of the training modules

- To provide participants with knowledge and information about the historical role and present function of European institutions and the concepts and formal meanings and expressions of European citizenship.
- To enable participants to reflect about European citizenship and European identity and key values and concepts associated with it, such as human rights, democracy and respect for cultural diversity.
- To develop participants' knowledge and motivation to critically understand the European youth programmes and their potential to support the awareness of European citizenship among young people, through youth work.

3. Aspects of European Citizenship: 3 Training Modules

Three training modules are offered between December 2004 and February 2005. These will be followed by other modules later in 2005 and 2006. Each course includes a few common elements, like a non-formal and intercultural educational approach and basic information on European programmes and funding mechanisms for youth. Modules will gather thirty participants for five training days. Five trainers carry out each module with the support of resource persons. All modules are offered in the English language.

Below you will find the content summary and dates of the first three modules. In separate documents, you will find more information about them each.

Please note that the **module numbers do NOT refer to an order**, they have simply been added for practical reasons. Any of the modules can be completed, so, for example, attending Module 1 is NOT a condition to apply for Module 2 or Module 3.

Interested applicants are asked to

APPLY ONLY FOR ONE OF THE THREE MODULES !

MODULE-1 CITIZENSHIP IN EUROPE

6-12 December 2004, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

MODULE-2 EUROPE: CONCEPTS & VISIONS

24-30 January 2005, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

MODULE-3: THE ROLE OF YOUTH WORK IN PARTICIPATION

21-27 February 2005, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

The dates refer to the days of arrival and departure of participants. Please consult the individual module descriptions for details about the content of each module.

4. Methodology

The training modules will be based on the principles and practice of non-formal education in youth worker and youth leader training, as they have been developed and implemented at the European Youth Centres as well as in other training contexts. Therefore, the modules will:

- be based on the intrinsic motivation of the learner;
- generally not imply the control of individual learning achievement;
- be learner-centred and based on the experiences of participants;
- be based on a personal responsibility for learning, supported by a strong group dimension and a collective approach;
- enable participants to apply and transfer what they learned to their youth work practice;
- take into account the needs and motivations of participants and be open to regular feed-back and evaluations;
- be documented to gain a maximum multiplying effect.

5. Profile of participants

The profile of participants differs slightly for the three modules in light of their different focus. Please go to the specific Module description in order to consult the profile of participants.

6. Application & Selection

Please note that the deadline of applications is different for the three modules!

MODULE-1 CITIZENSHIP IN EUROPE

6-12 December 2004, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

Deadline of application: **15 September 2004****MODULE-2 EUROPE: CONCEPTS & VISIONS**

24-30 January 2005, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

Deadline of application: **15 October 2004****MODULE-3: THE ROLE OF YOUTH WORK IN PARTICIPATION**

21-27 February 2005, European Youth Centre Strasbourg

Deadline of application: **15 November 2004**

All candidates must apply by using the enclosed application form.

**Applications must be sent to the
European Youth Centre in Strasbourg**

by email: ecmodules@coe.int

**or by fax: +33 388 41 27 77
("European Citizenship Modules")**

Selection of participants will be carried out by representatives of the Council of Europe and the European Commission (National Agencies of the YOUTH programme). The institutions will try as far as possible to ensure a balance between geographical origin, different types of experience, cultural backgrounds and organisations, gender, institutions or projects as well as different concepts of citizenship. **National Agencies of the YOUTH programme are invited to nominate candidates for the courses through letters of recommendation attached to participants applications.** Interested applicants are encouraged to contact their respective National Agencies when they submit their applications. (The list of National Agencies can be found at: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth/program/contact.pdf>)

Candidates will be informed during the month following the application deadline, and no later than 2 full months before the training module. The successful applicants are reminded that once a candidate has been placed on the final list, they must make every effort to attend the course for its full duration. If, for any exceptional reason, they are unable to take up the offer of a place, they must inform the course secretariat immediately. Replacements will be taken from the waiting list.

7. Travel and other expenses, enrolment fee

Board and lodging will be provided and paid for by the Council of Europe and the European Commission through their Partnership Agreement. Travel expenses and visa fees are reimbursed (on presentation of the relevant receipts) according to rules of the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe. For more information on these regulations, please contact the course secretariat. Payment is made either by bank transfer after the course, or at the end of the course in cash (euros). An enrolment fee of **€ 54** per participant will be automatically deducted from the amount to be reimbursed for travel expenses.

8. Contact details

The Secretariat of the Partnership Programme is at the Council of Europe, Directorate of Youth and Sport at the following address:

**Partnership Programme on
European Youth Worker Training
COUNCIL OF EUROPE
Directorate of Youth and Sport
30, rue Pierre de Coubertin
F-67000 Strasbourg, France
Tel: +33 388 41 23 00
Fax: +33 388 41 27 77
Email: ecmodules@coe.int
<http://www.coe.int/youth>
<http://www.training-youth.net>**

9. Other Training Offers

- **The Council of Europe Directorate of Youth and Sport**
www.coe.int/youth
- **The YOUTH programme of the European Commission**
http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth/index_en.html
- **The Partnership Programme on European Youth Worker Training** www.training-youth.net
- **The SALTO training centres** www.salto-youth.net
- **The National Agencies of the YOUTH programme**
<http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth/program/contact.pdf>
- **The European Youth Forum** www.youthforum.org

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