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Access to Social Rights for Young People  
from Disadvantaged Neighbourhoods

## ***Enter! Training for Youth Workers***

Empowering youth workers to counter  
discrimination, exclusion and violence in  
cooperation with local authorities

- A Council of Europe long-term training course
- **Initial seminar** (Budapest, 21 – 29 May 2017)
  - **Project development**
  - **E-learning – Mentoring - Networking**
  - **Evaluation seminar** (Strasbourg, June 2018)

**CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS**

**Deadline: 3rd April 2017**

## The *Enter!* project

For the Council of Europe, social cohesion is firmly based on human rights (as codified in the European Convention on Human Rights and the Revised European Social Charter), as well as an acceptance of shared responsibility for the welfare of all members of society, especially those who are at risk of poverty or exclusion. In line with this, the youth policy of the Council of Europe aims at providing young people with equal opportunities and experience which enable them to develop knowledge, skills and competencies to play a full part in all aspects of society.

The Youth Department of the Council of Europe has introduced the *Enter!* project to seek and highlight youth work response to violence, exclusion and discrimination affecting young people in Europe, notably in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. As a result of the project the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted in 2015 the [Enter! Recommendation](#) on access of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods to social rights. The recommendation proposes the development on policies taking into consideration the specific situations and needs of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Such policies should aim at preventing and eradicating the poverty, discrimination, violence and exclusion faced by young people.

The Joint Council on Youth adopted in 2016 a strategy to support the implementation of the recommendation in member states based on:

- Supporting the development and learning potential of youth work projects addressing situations of social exclusion, discrimination and violence
- Developing the competences of youth workers to implement projects for access to social rights with young people
- Enhancing cooperation of civil society actors and young people with local and/or regional authorities as partners in ensuring access to social rights on a local level
- Advocating for the implementation of the *Enter!* Recommendation through public policies.
- A soft monitoring of the implementation of the recommendation in member states.

In addition to the long-term training course for youth workers, the *Enter!* project includes:

- **Support measures** for policies and projects implemented to local and regional authorities,
- **Human rights education**, with an emphasis on social rights and youth participation
- **Advocacy** activities with youth organisations, notably through study sessions at the European Youth Centres.

The implementation of *Enter!* is supported by a [youth-friendly version](#) of the recommendation, a guide for the implementation of the recommendation – [Taking it Seriously](#), [Dignityland](#), a game for learning about social rights with young people, [examples of projects](#) implemented in the first two phases of the project and various publications. Further educational resources can be found in [Compass](#), the manual for human rights education with young people.

## The *Enter!* Training for Youth Workers

The Long-Term Training Course (LTTTC) for youth workers will be at the core of *Enter!* in 2017-2018. The experiences of the course will have a particularly important role in informing other activities of the project, by bringing the direct input of youth workers and local and regional authorities and by bridging experiences from the local to the national and European levels.

The course is a complementary training for 30 youth workers to implement the *Enter!* Recommendation through projects in partnership with local authorities within a European and intercultural context provided by the European Youth Centres.

The **objectives** of the course are:

1. To enable, motivate and support youth workers and local authorities to design youth work projects that address discrimination, or obstacles, in the access of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods to social rights
2. To develop youth workers understanding and knowledge of the human rights framework and the policy fields that are relevant to the situation of the young people they work with
3. To explore and use the potential of the Enter! Recommendation on youth projects and policies supporting young people to know and access their social rights
4. To train and support 30 youth workers in developing projects based on the Enter! recommendation and integrating an advocacy dimension based on human rights
5. To support the professional development of youth workers and their ability to engage with decision-makers in the youth and social policy fields
6. To strengthen participants competence in the fields of project development, management, implementation and evaluation in a European context
7. To support youth work and youth policy responses which implement the Enter! Recommendation as examples of good practice
8. To strengthen or extend European networks of youth workers and youth work providers and cooperation among local and national actors active in promoting the social rights of young people in the Council of Europe frameworks
9. To collect experiences and information about the relevance of youth work and local youth policies in promoting Council of Europe human rights standards.

### **Curriculum and competences addressed**

The course is planned as a process in which individual and group learning are closely intertwined with youth work practices and experiences. The long-term training course comprises two intercultural residential seminars with a practice/project phase in between and supported by an e-learning programme, mentoring and networking opportunities. Throughout the course the participants can expect to improve and develop their competences in the following areas:

- Human rights and their relevance to youth work and young people
- Learning for and from youth work projects based on the needs, agency and participation of young people;
- Project planning, management and evaluation
- Associating youth work, youth research and youth policies
- Ability to relate with local policy-making processes and institutions
- Translating Council of Europe standards into youth work and youth policy projects
- Developing partnerships with other social actors for policy development and enhancement of dialogue between young people, youth workers and decision-makers
- Advocacy for and ability to connect own youth work experiences with relevant policies
- Intercultural communication and cooperation in multicultural teams
- Leadership and role as multipliers in guiding other youth workers and youth leaders
- Human rights education, intercultural learning and non-formal education and their role in promoting the autonomy and social integration of young people;

- Practical understanding of European youth programmes and of the instruments of the Council of Europe for facilitating the access of young people to social rights
- Working in local and international networks for youth work and human rights education
- Learning to learn; ICT skills for learning and cooperation
- Human rights-based approaches in combating discrimination, violence and exclusion affecting young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods or backgrounds.

### Expected results and benefits for participants

Throughout the course and as a result of its educational process, the participants will:

- Follow a full project management cycle, from needs assessment to evaluation and planning the follow-up
- Understand the Enter! Recommendation and how to apply it locally
- Receive institutional and educational support to develop projects with young people, as well as increased visibility for their youth work activities
- Exchange practices with other youth workers from different contexts and network with colleagues from other countries
- Develop their organisations' capacity to act on access to social rights for young people
- Establish partnerships with local and regional authorities
- Receive social and educational recognition for their learning and participation
- Improve their competences in applying social rights in youth work at the local level.
- Gain competences for intercultural dialogue and cooperation.

### Methodology and calendar of the course

The LTTC is composed of four phases, which all participants are required to follow

<b>Preparatory phase</b> April – May 2017	Preparatory activities. The participants will get to know each other and create first links with the local and regional authorities so they can further develop projects together.
<b>Initial seminar</b> 21-29 May 2017, European Youth Centre Budapest	<b>training</b> The training seminar is an essential element of the course, allowing for participants to develop and ownership of the training process, set up objectives for learning and development, mastering the institutional and educational frameworks of the course and develop improve their competences on the key curriculum elements. The project ideas will be reviewed, revised and developed. Learning objectives will be set with trainers, mentors and organisers.
<b>Project implementation.</b> <b>learning, mentoring</b> June 2017 – June 2018	<b>E-</b> Participants will implement local youth projects in cooperation with local authorities, based in their sending organisation or institution. E-learning modules as well as mentoring and peer-support groups which will further support their learning and project development
<b>Evaluation seminar</b> Strasbourg, June 2018,	The participants will evaluate their learning and the impact of their projects on the local level policies, the young people and the local authorities. The seminar will also include training elements in order to consolidate participants' competences development.

In all phases of the course, the participants will benefit from the educational and institutional support from the Council of Europe.

### **Additional support measures**

An overall **evaluation** will be finalised by the end of 2018. An evaluation meeting of the course will be organised to review the results of the course and provide input for the course follow-up.

A **youth policy seminar** involving local public authorities and youth workers is likely to be organised in order to further associate local authorities with Enter! in its entirety.

The methodology will balance theory and practices, learning and project implementation. A diversity of working methods will be used, based on non-formal education.

### **Profile of participants**

The course is open for **youth workers** and **social workers** – full or part time, employed or volunteers - working directly with young people, and who:

- a) carry out their activities in a **non-governmental organisation** (a youth or a human rights organisation, an organisation working on specific social rights or with specific target groups, etc.) or in a **local authority** (for example, local community centres, youth centres, municipal youth or education services, etc.)
- b) have some experience in **projects with young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods**, or projects linked with some social rights
- c) are involved in planning and implementing the youth work provision of their organisation or service
- d) already have some experience in **cooperation with local/regional authorities**.

All participants must also:

- e) demonstrate motivation and capacity to develop projects for and with young people on access to social rights
- f) have an interest to work in partnerships with local authorities on enhancing dialogue for improving access of young people to social rights
- g) be active in some specific areas of social rights on which they will focus their work and possibly their youth project
- h) be motivated to learn and to develop their professional and personal competences;
- i) intend to remain active in their organisation/institution for the next 2 years and multiply their learning in their organisation/institution and community
- j) be aged between 18 and 35 years, with exceptions possible
- k) be resident in a country signatory of the European Cultural Convention
- l) be able to work in English or French
- m) be available for the full participation in all the phases of the course
- n) be supported by their organisation for the full duration of the course. This implies that:
  - o) the candidates present a support letter from their organisation in the application phase, and a specific letter of commitment in the pre-selection stage
  - o) the candidates are allowed and supported by their sending organisation to attend the residential seminars, the e-learning modules and mentoring and to develop and implement a project within the framework of the organisation

- there should be a priority among the organisation's work plan on developing partnerships with local authorities or, respectively, civil society organisations (for candidates working in the public sector)
  - the organisation will provide input and visibility to the project(s) developed by the participants (in turn, the Council of Europe will acknowledge and provide institutional visibility to the sending organisations)
  - the sending organisations have developed or are in a position to develop partnerships with local and regional authorities/civil society for the implementation of the Enter! Recommendation.
- o) Selected candidates should be supported by a local or regional authority.

### Role of the youth projects

During the course each participant is expected to develop a local youth work project based on active participation of young people and addressing specific challenges that young people face in their access to social rights. The project should be an example in implementing the Enter! Recommendation.

The projects will provide a practical basis for learning about promoting the social rights of young people and how best to link specific policies with youth work. They should be implemented in co-operation with local authorities so as better impact at the local community level.

The projects developed within the Enter! LTTC will follow the specific quality criteria:

- i) [The project supports the implementation of the Enter! Recommendation](#)
- ii) [The project is connected to the values and work of the Council of Europe](#)
- iii) [The project is based on clear partnership/s with the local and/or regional authorities](#)
- iv) [The project is based on needs of young people](#)

All projects must also:

- v) Be based on a consistent project cycle (needs analysis, preparation, implementation, evaluation, follow-up)
- vi) Have specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-framed (SMART) objectives
- vii) Have a clear action plan and consistent activities
- viii) Be based on realistic expected results and foresee time for follow-up
- ix) [Be feasible](#)

The Council of Europe will not provide funding for projects; this is the responsibility of the youth worker/participant, the sending organisation and the local authority. However, information about potential funding opportunities will be provided, in addition to project management competences.

### Application procedure and selection of participants

All candidates must apply online, completing the application at <http://youthapplications.coe.int/>

Before applying, each candidate youth worker should prepare:

- an **outline of the project idea** (Maximum 300 words in English or in French) that the candidate intends to develop during the project development phase The outline should specify the link with the Enter! Recommendation (which social rights or measures the project will address), the role of local authorities and of the sending organisations in the project. The project outline is important to illustrate what the applicant has in mind and the social context within which the project is placed. The possible acceptance of an applicant does not imply, for the Council of Europe, automatic support or acceptance of

the project. Participants, as part of their learning process will look for funding sources for their projects themselves, and possibly also modify the project idea based on the course.

- a **support letter from their organisation**, stating their interest in being partners in the course and the support to the participant throughout the process. The letters should explain the need and the value for the organisation and for the candidate to attend the course. If an organisation wishes to propose more than one candidate, an order of priority should be indicated. Applicants without support letters will not be accepted.

All candidates must apply online and send their recommendation letters by **3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017, at 13:00 hrs, Central European Time**. Support letters should be uploaded on the platform or sent separately by e-mail to [eyc.programme@coe.int](mailto:eyc.programme@coe.int) by the same deadline.

A group of preselected participants will be announced by mid-April 2017. After the pre-selection, and before the initial seminar, the preselected candidates should be able to provide a statement of interest from the local or regional authorities (or other relevant governmental agencies and institutions working on the local level) whom they want to be involved in the project. Only upon sending these documents will the candidates be invited to the course. The selection will be done respecting the candidates' organisations' priorities, but also ensuring a balance between sexes, geographical regions, different types of experiences, backgrounds and organisations, institutions or projects. A waiting list may be drawn up.

### **Practical and financial information**

#### *Venue and accommodation*

The residential seminars will be held at the European Youth Centres. The first seminar will take place in Budapest, where accommodation and meals will be provided by the Council of Europe.

#### *Travel and subsistence expenses*

Travel expenses to and from Budapest will be reimbursed according to the rules of the Council of Europe. Selected candidates will be informed in due time regarding travel procedures.

#### *Working languages*

The course will be held in English and French, with simultaneous interpretation during seminars.

#### *Visas*

Visa costs will be reimbursed by the Council of Europe. The Council of Europe secretariat will issue invitation letter that should facilitate the delivery of visas to attend the seminars.

### **Other Courses of the Youth Department**

If you are interested in a training course in international youth work, but your profile does not fully correspond with the requirements of this course, you can seek information about other courses of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe at <http://www.coe.int/youth>.

### **Further information and contact**

For information related to the content of this call, please contact [stefan.manevski@coe.int](mailto:stefan.manevski@coe.int). For any other information, please contact [eyc.programme@coe.int](mailto:eyc.programme@coe.int)