



"Acts of Young People"

YEU Cyprus

25 – 29 April 2017



"Acts of Young People (ACTS)"

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Nicosia, Cyprus

Structured Dialogue

Cyprus 2017

Info Pack for participants



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Dear friends of YEU Cyprus,

It is with great delight and supreme enthusiasm to announce, that time is running fast and we are getting closer and closer to the Structured Dialogue conference “Acts of Young People (ACTS)”!

Between the **25th – 29th of April 2017**, YEU Cyprus will be meeting 54 participants (educators, youth workers, activists etc.) from 17 different countries (Cyprus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Lithuania, Romania, United Kingdom, Croatia, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Slovakia, Spain, Greece, Poland, Portugal)

Bring your positive energy and motivation, because lots of work and commitment is expected from everyone, but at the same time have no fear; we promise lots of fun too! We might already know some of you, but in any case, we are so excited to be meeting all of you. And we can, definitely, promise that this conference is going to be another memorable activity. Are you ready to take this challenge?

This conference will take place in Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus. Be ready to open your mind and soul for what is to follow in order to spread your ideas and expertise back to your countries. We have no doubt that you will all be the best ambassadors of the particular knowledge and experience. So... get prepared for this unique experience and see you soon!

Best wishes,
YEU Cyprus Team and
Trainers

(Cyprus)



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ORGANIZER: YOUTH FOR EXCHANGE AND UNDERSTANDING CYPRUS (YEU CYPRUS)

YEU Cyprus was established in 1995 as a Cypriot local civil organization (NGO), aiming to foster closer co-operation and better understanding among the young people of the world by exchanging information, experiences and ideas, on cultural, educational and social issues. YEU Cyprus is affiliated with YEU International platform. It is a full member of Cyprus Youth Council (CYC) - the official coordinating body of Cypriot Youth Organizations. It implements several activities including workshops, field trips and training courses and it organizes and participates in various international and local events to foster tolerance and mutual respect among youngsters. Visit our website for more details about YEU www.yeucyprus.org or find us on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/yeucyprus/?fref=ts>

“Acts of Young People (ACTS)”

The ancient Greeks believed that politics meant that each citizen individually cares for the city's common matters. A law in ancient Greece obliged every citizen to join a political party when it came to civil conflicts. Whoever chose to remain neutral, he would lose his civil rights, as he would be considered useless. This is not the case today, as people and especially young people, are moving away from politics and participation in the society, and they can no longer be considered as active citizens. Lack of trust in politics and the people being “not interested in politics” were the two main reasons why people absented from the EP elections of 2014, according to the 2014 post-election survey of the European Commission’s DG Communication. Besides, people do not act collectively anymore in order to solve the problems that the society is facing; something that gives grounds to political indifference and individualism. Therefore, YEU Cyprus has set as its target to increase and promote youth participation in the society and to strengthen democratic life.

The activities foreseen in this project have two phases: First, consultations with young people in the form of questionnaires, with a view to find out their needs on matters relating to participation in democratic life. Second, a conference/meeting between young people where decision-makers/youth experts will be invited to talk about the theme of participation in



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democratic life. In the second phase, our aim is to conclude to a set of concrete recommendations which can be used in national and/or European level.

With this project, we can show young people and policy makers that there are a lot of ways in participatory democracy; and explain how we, as active citizens, can change the system with a bottom-up approach. This way, we can stimulate debate about the obstacles that prevent people from fully using these rights and encourage them to participate.

The final objective is to produce a policy paper in order to forward it to the policy makers at national and European level with the view to be used for future policy making in the field of participatory democracy, active citizenship and youth. Therefore, these recommendations can be included into the agendas of European leaders (i.e. National representatives at ministerial level and/or Members of the European Parliament) in order to urge them to look at the issue of absenteeism in active citizenship and participatory democracy of young people more seriously; and possibly to propose laws that are more inclusive of youth. These actions will empower young people to be more active and step forward.

Objectives of “ACTS”

Active citizenship implies being active towards the political and social life, but also it implies democracy which is realized by people's participation. It also means having confidence in political values and being able to criticize politics and politicians. This highlights the importance of continuing to educate young people in being included and participating in the social and political framework of the society.

Therefore, the objective of this project is to foster active citizenship and encourage civic participation at local, national and EU level. Especially, the project aims to embolden and inspire young people in their ability to participate actively in society in line with the provisions of the Lisbon Treaty; and to stimulate the development of participatory democracy of young people.



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ACCOMMODATION

For the training course we will be staying in Elyssia hotel (<http://www.elyssiahotel.com/>), in Pedoulas village, near Nicosia.

HOW TO ARRIVE TO ELYSSIA HOTEL

You will be informed by email after the selection of the participants!

WORKING LANGUAGE

The working language will be English.

PARTICIPATION FEE

There is a €20 participation fee.

WHAT TO BRING

- ✓ Any medicines you might need
- ✓ Something unique from Cyprus (some specific product you would like to share with others) and/or pictures/maps, etc.
- ✓ Traditional food/drink from Cyprus
- ✓ Creative, innovative and sustainable ideas
- ✓ Your smile and good will to work constructively with everyone 😊

EMERGENCY CONTACT

If you face any problems before meeting us, please, do not hesitate to contact (email or call):

Stephania Kokkosi: +357 99 573646, or projects@yeu-cyprus.org