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ASIA-EUROPE TRAINING FOR YOUTH LEADERS

The Role of Human Rights Education in Intercultural Dialogue - an Asia-Europe
perspective

European Youth Centre Budapest, Hungary
17 - 24 May 2009

PRESENTATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE

BACKGROUND

The Asia-Europe Foundation aims to build on the training expertise of long-standing Asian and European youth organisations in order to allow for a beneficial exchange of practice and peer-to-peer training. The Asia-Europe series of trainings aim at the creation of an Asia-Europe platform for the joint development of the Asia-Europe co-operation in the field of youth trainings related to non-formal education. The establishment of a stable co-operation in the field of trainings and capacity-building for youth organisations forms a part of ASEF's efforts to foster intercultural dialogue.

The Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe is the organisations body in charge of youth policy (www.coe.int/youth). The youth and sports programmes of the Council of Europe are integral parts of a wealth of initiatives aimed at the development of a common European cultural area and identity; the annual programme of youth activities is structured around four main work priorities:

- Youth Programme on Human Rights Education and Intercultural Dialogue
- Youth Participation and Active Citizenship
- Social Cohesion and Inclusion of Young People
- Youth Policy Development.

The youth sector of the Council of Europe functions on the basis of co-management between governmental and non-governmental youth partners of the Council of Europe. Its annual programme of activities is primarily developed and implemented at the European Youth Centre of Budapest and Strasbourg, while the European Youth Foundation financially supports youth projects across Europe. A Partnership in the Youth Field with the European Commission ensures complementarity between the youth programmes of the Council of Europe and the European Commission.

The Directorate of Youth and Sport has an outstanding tradition of promoting intercultural learning in international youth work and in developing educational resources for non-formal education with young people among which are the Education Pack “all different - all equal” and Compass, a manual on human rights education with young people (www.coe.int/compass).

The training course aims to develop the competences of thirty (30) youth trainers, leaders and workers nationals of Council of Europe member states and ASEM partner countries in developing Asia-Europe youth projects with a Human Rights Education component. The course follows the approaches and practices common in non-formal learning/education: based on experiential learning, taking into account participants’ experience, combining theory and practice and with a high intercultural learning dimension and content. Participants are of course expected to plan their follow-up to their learning process, possibly through joint or inter-regional projects.

The Asia-Europe Training for Youth Leaders - **The Role of Human Rights Education in Intercultural Dialogue - an Asia-Europe Perspective** is the first common initiative of the Asia-Europe Foundation and the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe in the field of youth and will focus on Human Rights Education as a part of the framework of Intercultural Dialogue. Human rights education stands for learning about, for and through human rights. The educational approaches, as reflected *inter alia* in Compass (www.coe.int/compass), the Manual on Human Rights Education for Young People that the Council of Europe has developed, have been successfully applied in several previous youth training activities involving not only participants from European countries but also from other regions of the world.

INTRODUCTION

The Asia-Europe Training for Youth Leaders is co-organised by the **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** and the **Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe (DYS)** and will take place in Budapest, Hungary from the 17th to the 24th of May 2009.

WHAT IS ASEM?

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) was initiated in 1996 when the ASEM leaders met in Bangkok, Thailand. ASEM is an informal trans-regional platform for dialogue and co-operation between the two regions and has arisen out of a mutual recognition that the relationship between Asia and Europe needed to be strengthened in light of the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

The objective of ASEM is to forge a stronger partnership between Asia and Europe that is based on equality, mutual respect, and mutual benefit. The three pillars of the ASEM dialogue process - which extends beyond the political and official levels and encompasses the business and people sectors of the two regions - are political dialogue on regional and global issues, enhanced economic cooperation, and cooperation in the social, cultural, and educational fields.

WHO ARE THE ASEM PARTNERS?

The members of the ASEM Process are the following: Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam, the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat.

WHAT IS THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Founded in 1949, the Council of Europe seeks to develop throughout Europe common and democratic principles based on the European Convention on Human Rights and other reference texts on the protection of individuals.

The Council exists in order to:

- protect human rights, pluralist democracy and the rule of law;
- promote awareness and encourage the development of Europe's cultural identity and diversity
- find common solutions to the challenges facing European society: such as discrimination against minorities, xenophobia, intolerance, bioethics and cloning, terrorism, trafficking in human beings, organised crime and corruption, cybercrime, violence against children;
- to consolidate democratic stability in Europe by backing political, legislative and constitutional reform.

The current Council of Europe's political mandate was defined by the third Summit of Heads of State and Government, held in Warsaw in May 2005.

WHO ARE THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEMBER STATES?

The Council of Europe has a genuine pan-European dimension: 47 member countries and 1 applicant country: Belarus (Belarus ' special guest status has been suspended due to its lack of respect for human rights and democratic principles).

The Council of Europe member states are the following: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING COURSE

The main objectives are as follows:

- o To develop the competence of participants in integrating human rights education in intercultural youth projects;
- o To develop the intercultural competence of participants for Asia-Europe co-operation;
- o To develop participants understanding of the youth work realities in Asia and Europe;

- To explore different understandings and practices of human rights education in youth work in the participants' countries and organisations;
- To explore practical ways and methodological tools for human rights education and intercultural dialogue with the participants;
- To support participants in initiating and developing intercultural dialogue youth projects;
- To introduce participants to the institutional programmes and possibilities for Asia-European intercultural youth projects;
- To foster Asia-Europe youth exchanges and projects and explore the possibilities for future co-operation between the Council of Europe's youth sector.

EXPECTED OUTPUT

The training is expected to create concrete results such as:

- Informal network and contacts between youth workers in European and Asian countries;
- Co-operation projects and initiatives from participants;
- Increased competences of participants and their organisations to engage in Asia-European cooperation and to integrate a Human Rights Education perspective in their work;
- Experience in youth work and training approaches of/by the Council of Europe's youth sector and the Asia-Europe Foundation.

COMPETENCES ADDRESSED DURING THE TRAINING

The course is designed and planned so as to allow for the development of the participants competences in the following areas:

- A critical understanding of intercultural dialogue and its implications in youth activities
- Ability to express oneself, to actively listen and to reflect about communication processes in multicultural settings and groups
- Ability to take into account different needs and realities of participants and target groups in the design and implementation of youth projects
- Understanding of key intercultural attitudes, such as empathy, tolerance of ambiguity and distance to social roles and their relevance in participants actions
- Ability to develop consistent approaches and attitudes about the relation between culture and human rights
- Understanding of the central values and key characteristics of human rights
- Ability to cooperate in culturally diverse working groups
- Ability to introduce human rights issues and develop human rights education activities with young people
- Dealing with conflict transformation and ability to apply it in youth projects and youth work projects
- Ability to relate human rights issues to the participants communities and societies

VENUE AND DATES

The Asia-Europe Training for Youth Leaders - **The Role of Human Rights Education in Intercultural Dialogue - an Asia-Europe Perspective**” will be held from the 17th to the 24th of May 2009 in Budapest, Hungary.

The venue of the training will be the European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe.

PROGRAMME

Participants are expected to arrive at the venue of the training on Sunday, the 17th of May 2009 and depart on Sunday, the 24th of May 2009.

The course follows the approaches and practices common in non-formal learning/education: based on experiential learning, taking into account participants' experience, combining theory and practice and with a high intercultural learning dimension and content.

Participants are of course expected to plan their follow-up to their learning process, possibly through joint or inter-regional projects.

All participants are also expected to engage in the preparation of the course in the six weeks preceding the seminar in Budapest. This will include regular contributions and participation in an e-learning platform being prepared for the course. Each participant should expect to devote at least 2 hours on-line between 1 April and 15 May.

A detailed programme will be sent to all participants.

WORKING LANGUAGE

The official language of communication shall be English.

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

The project will involve **thirty (30)** participants, motivated youth trainers, youth leaders and youth workers active in the area of youth, training, intercultural learning and non-formal education (aged between **18-30**), nationals of Council of Europe member states and ASEM partner countries who would:

- Have a relevant experience in national and/or international youth work, particularly in the field of intercultural learning and/or human rights education;
- Be key multipliers playing an active role within a youth organisation, network or service at national or regional level, and plan to continue their work in the near future;
- Be responsible for implementing youth projects;
- Be interested and committed to further the co-operation between Asia and Europe;
- Be able to work in English;
- Be willing to attend 100% of the training;

The selection of participants will respect sex and geographical balance in the final group of the course. There will be 30 participants selected and eight placed on a waiting list.

FEES AND OTHER EXPENSES

A **registration fee** of 60 € is due from all participants in the course; as a general rule, this fee is deducted from the reimbursement of participants' travel expenses. The organisers of the training course will be responsible for covering all local costs, including accommodation and meals during the program. They will also be in charge of fully covering the international transport costs .

APPLICATION

Interested persons should complete the online Application and upload their updated detailed curriculum vitae or resume and a recent photo (jpg or bmp format). The application form for applying for the training course should be filled in on-line, available at <http://coe.opencontent.it>. To access the online application form click on "ASIA-EUROPE TRAINING FOR YOUTH LEADERS". In case you do not have a username and password, to be able to get them you should Fill out the "New Account" form with your details. Your username and password will be sent to your e-mail address. After receiving these, you can proceed with filling in the application. Further instructions are provided on the website.

The application form should be submitted in English latest **by 2 March 2009**.

Applicants are kindly asked **NOT** to make any travel arrangements until they receive an official confirmation from the organisers. **Only** short-listed candidates will be contacted for confirmation on the week following the deadline for applications.

Information regarding the training, is also available on the ASEF website at <http://www.asef.org>. and on the CoE website at: <https://www.coe.int/> Regular updates shall also be posted online. For more information please refer to the following contacts:

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DRAFT PROGRAMME OUTLINE

Time	Day 0 Sunday	Day 1 Monday	Day 2 Tuesday	Day 3 Wednesday	Day 4 Thursday	Day 5 Friday	Day 6 Saturday	Day 7 Sunday
9:15 – 10:45	ARRIVAL	Framework Expectations	Human Rights <ul style="list-style-type: none">• definition• values	Culture, identity, perceptions	Skills and tools	Youth Work – youth leader criteria for projects	Projects	DEPARTURE
10:45 – 11:15		Group building		Attitudes	Communication	Practical tools and skills		
11:15 – 12:45					Conflict transformation			
13:00 – 14:30					Lunch			
14:30 – 16:00		ICD realities	ICD - Realities of diversity	HRE	FREE	Fun-ding possibilities	Follow-up	
16:00 – 16:30		Roles as youth leaders		Experiences Understanding		Place of HRE in projects	Evaluation	
16:30 – 17:30				Consultations				
17:30 – 18:15		Self –reflection Steaming groups	Self –reflection Steaming groups	Self –reflection Steaming groups		Self –reflection Steaming groups		
19:00		Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
21:00	Getting to know each other	Evening Programme						