

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS:

Diversity Festival "Celebrating Pluralism"

Gdansk, Poland

6th – 13th August 2017



In cooperation with the
partners of YEN:



The Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) is looking for participants for the Diversity Festival „Celebrating Pluralism“.

The event that will take place in Gdansk will be hosted by the “Pomorania” Student Organization and supported by the European Youth Foundation.

If you are interested in participating, please fill in the online application form at <http://www.yeni.org/registration/?event=1601&title=Diversity%20Festival%20>.

The deadline for the application is the **12th of July 2017**.

About the Seminar:

We are very excited to invite you to the 3rd Diversity Festival of YEN that will take place from 6th till 13th of August 2017 (Arrival: Sunday, 6.08.2017 Departure: Sunday, 13.08.2017) in the traditional capital of Kashubia, Gdansk. As the cradle of the Solidarity Movement, Gdansk has for centuries played a role as a multicultural city where people from all around the Europe and followers of different religions could find shelter.

The Event is supported by:

The motto of this year's Diversity Festival "**Celebrating Pluralism**" and it promotes a stronger, more diverse and more tolerant European community. The seminar will be a space where participants will be able to not only gain a deeper knowledge of cultural, educational, social and political realities of other minorities but also train skills of expressing social criticism and intercultural dialogue. The main outcome of the workshops will be the festival where participants will introduce the minorities of Europe to a broader audience by preparing a culturally diverse programme.

In different workshops, the participants will have the opportunity to deal with the lingual and cultural diversity of national, ethnic and linguistic minorities as well as exploring new forms of artistic participation. The Resolution of YEN (adopted at the Easter Seminar in Albania 2017) will play an essential role in the workshops.

The following workshops will be offered:

1 Theatre Workshop

The participants will discuss current political developments (e.g. rise of populism, violent extremism, discrimination etc.) and put it into an artistic interpretation. The workshop will also focus on the scenic aspect of the Diversity Festival, which will merge all the different presentations into one story and perform it during the final presentation on stage.

2 Cartooning Workshop

The participants will draw cartoons referring to the current issues in our society. The workshop will also take a look at history of art and minority art in general.

3 Digital Storytelling

During the workshop participants will create a Digital Story reflecting on the current situation of youth participation and Minority Rights in Europe. Digital Storytelling is a simple and innovative method which allows young people to convey a personal story in an illustrative way in a short video of two to five minutes. The workshop offers participants an insight to storytelling methods and improves their media skills including storyboard creation, film and photo techniques and audio recording.

4 Youth Participation

This workshop will introduce the participants to different methods of youth participation focused on debating, campaigning and use of other forms of activism, such as flashmobs.

Additional activities

- **Minority SafePack Initiative:** We will be promoting and encouraging the signing of citizens' initiative that calls upon the European Union to improve the protection of persons belonging to national and linguistic minorities and strengthen cultural and linguistic diversity in the Union.
- **#DiversityConnects:** At the Diversity Festival we want to include the YEN campaign in the workshops and also do various public actions. #DiversityConnects aims to unite diverse minority voices to fight against stereotypes, prejudice, and all kind of discrimination towards ethnic and national minorities. The campaign gives the majority a clear understanding of our cultures and the advantages of autochthonous minorities for the society.
- **Exploring Pluralism:** The activity will give the participants an opportunity to learn about the heritage of different minorities. Each minority should beforehand prepare the traditional dances, songs, games or language lessons that they would like to teach other participants.
- **Excursion:** We will visit the European Solidarity Centre, take a boat trip to Sopot and spend the afternoon learning about musical and culinary traditions at a traditional Kashubian home.

Profile of the participants

- Young members of minorities involved in their minority youth organisation or one of our partner organisations Alliance, Phiren Amenca or VYRE (aged 16-30),
- Able to work in English,
- We can accept 2 participants per YEN member organisation. However, there will also be a waiting list and the free places will be given to those who are on the list after the deadline. Please specify your priority list of participants.

Travel Reimbursement

We will reimburse 50% of the travel costs for the Western-European participants and 70% for the participants from the Eastern Europe. Travels by car will be reimbursed by a rate of 0,10 €/km up to a limit of 150 € per car.

Travel costs will be reimbursed only when original tickets will be presented and sent to the office and participants provide all needed justificatory documents of travel and expenses (invoices, boarding passes, train or bus tickets). Taxi costs cannot be reimbursed. Additionally, the reimbursement form needs to be duly filled in. We'll try to reimburse the money as soon as possible. Make sure to choose the cheapest and eco-friendly way of travelling to the venue.

Participation Fee

The participation fee is **100 €** for Western European participants and **70 €** for Eastern European participants. It covers food and accommodation for the entire seminar, as well as excursions and required materials during the event.

Application Procedure

If you would like to participate please fill in the online application form until **12th of July 2017**. You can find it at:

<http://www.yeni.org/registration/?event=1601&title=Diversity%20Festival%20>.

Please note that **all applicants must be proposed by an organisation**. Applications sent by individuals **will not** be considered. After the deadline, applicants will be informed whether they are selected or placed on a waiting list. **If you book your trip before, we cannot reimburse your costs.**

Please book your travels right after you get the official confirmation from the YEN office!

Additional information will be sent to you after your participation is confirmed by the office. If you have any questions about the event or the workshops, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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We are looking forward to your participation!
Pomorania and YEN Orga-Team



The Event is supported by: