



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Training workshop on combating antigypsyism through education

20 – 24 April 2015

European Youth Centre Strasbourg, France

Presentation of the training workshop

Call for participants

(deadline for applying: 16 March 2015)

The Roma Youth Action Plan

The youth sector of the Council of Europe has associated young Roma to its policy and work for intercultural dialogue and human rights education since 1995, when a ground-breaking training course for Roma youth leaders was held at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg. As a result of the “All Different – All Equal” European youth campaign against racism, antisemitism, xenophobia and intolerance, the Council of Europe supported the development of Roma youth networks across Europe. In addition to denouncing situations of discrimination and antigypsyism, the youth policy of the Council of Europe supports the involvement of Roma young people in youth policy and all matters that concern them. The participation of young Roma plays an essential role in the transformation of the status and challenges faced by Roma communities across Europe.

Initiated in 2011, the Roma Youth Action Plan¹ is a response of the Council of Europe to the challenges faced by Roma young people in Europe, particularly in relation to their empowerment, participation in policy decision-making processes and structures at European level and multiple realities of discrimination. The action plan includes activities of the Youth Department and of other sectors of the Council of Europe, as well as activities by other partners – intergovernmental and non-governmental – cooperating with the Council of Europe and interested in securing a maximum of impact of their activities by avoiding double work and creating synergies.

The Roma Youth Action Plan gives priority to human rights and intercultural dialogue as responses to discrimination and antigypsyism, together with the development and capacity-building of Roma youth organisations and movements. Among the foreseen actions related to these priorities, the development of suitable educational materials and training opportunities are the main initiatives that the Youth Department has undertaken during the last two years.

A toolkit on combating antigypsyism is currently being finalised and will be launched and used during this training workshop. The toolkit aims to be a response to the need of young activists, youth workers, youth leaders and human rights educators to have a specific and ready-to-use tool that would enable them to tackle the topics of discrimination, and particularly antigypsyism, through educational activities with young people. The toolkit has been elaborated on the basis of the outcomes of a consultative meeting with educators, representatives of Roma youth organisations and the statutory bodies of the youth sector, which took place in 2013. The toolkit includes information about antigypsyism, racism and discrimination, the human rights framework and educational activities to be run with young people, based on the approaches of human rights education.

Empowering youth leaders and educators to take action against discrimination and antigypsyism is crucial to any action that seeks to promote long term results which, undoubtedly, have to include education and awareness-raising. This training workshop will result in the creation of a group of multipliers who will develop further educational activities with young people on combating antigypsyism, on the basis of the toolkit.

¹ More about the Roma Youth Action Plan: www.coe.int/youth/roma

The training workshop

The training workshop aims to develop 20 young educators' competences to address issues related to antigypsyism through educational activities with young people and, by doing so, associating them to the wider use of the toolkit.

The objectives of this training workshop are:

- To explore the concept of antigypsyism, its manifestations today and identify educational responses
- To increase the competences of 20 educators to run initiatives and activities with young people on combating antigypsyism, within a human rights education framework
- To stimulate participants and their respective organisations and networks to use and disseminate the Toolkit on combating antigypsyism
- To support exchange of practices and networking among participants
- To identify further support measures and actions within the framework of the Roma Youth Action Plan for combating antigypsyism.

Competences to be developed during the training workshop

The training workshop is designed so that the participants will be able to further develop the following competences:

- Knowledge about antigypsyism (the concept, its mechanisms, its manifestations)
- Skills to recognize antigypsyism
- Ability to develop educational responses to combat antigypsyism
- Knowledge about the human rights framework (concept of human rights, characteristics, principles, institutions, main treaties)
- Awareness about the importance of human rights principles
- Skills in planning and running educational activities with young people, based on the principles of non-formal education
- Knowledge about new methods and tools
- Knowledge and skills to use human rights education approaches with young people
- Knowledge about other practices and experiences
- Knowledge about the Council of Europe, its programmes and tools
- Motivation and confidence to act as a human rights educator
- Empathy.

Methodology of the training workshop

The training workshop is designed to give participants the opportunity to experience and reflect upon activities and concepts central to human rights, human rights education and combating antigypsyism, based on experiential learning approaches. The course is also designed as a mutual learning situation, where participants can share their realities, experiences and approaches across Europe in a dialogical intercultural approach and environment.

Profile of participants

The training workshop is designed for participants who preferably, but not exclusively:

- Have some experience in developing and running educational activities with young people
- Are active in Roma communities and have some experience in working with Roma communities and/or Roma youth, particularly on topics related to anti-discrimination work and human rights
- Are motivated, ready and supported by their organisation in developing and running follow-up educational activities with young people on combating antigypsyism
- Are supported by an organisation/institution/informal group for their participation in the workshop
- Are aged 18 – 30 (exceptions are possible)
- Are committed to attend for the full duration of the workshop
- Are able to work in English
- Reside in a member state of the European Cultural Convention² of the Council of Europe.

When applying to the training workshop, each participants is expected to indicate the educational activities they will be involved in planning, running and evaluating in the short and medium term. The capacity for multiplying and developing educational activities on the basis of the toolkit on combating antigypsyism will be a very important selection criteria.

Practical and financial conditions

Timetable

The meeting will begin at 9.30 on 20 April 2015 and finish at 13:00 on 24 April 2015. Participants should arrange their travel in order to arrive at the European Youth Centre Strasbourg on 19 April and leave on 24 April afternoon (or 25 April, if no departure option is available on 24 April afternoon).

Venue and accommodation

The meeting will take place at the European Youth Centre Strasbourg. Accommodation and meals will be provided by the Council of Europe.

Travel and subsistence expenses

Travel expenses to and from Strasbourg will be reimbursed according to the rules of the Council of Europe.

Working Languages

The working language of this meeting will be English.

Selection process

All candidates must apply online, completing the application form through this link:

<http://youthapplications.coe.int/Application-forms/Training-workshop-on-combating-antigypsyism-through-education>

² Check here the countries who are parties to the European Cultural Convention:
<http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/Commun/ChercheSig.asp?NT=018&CM=&DF=&CL=ENG>

All candidates must apply online by **16 March 2015, at midnight Central European Time.**

The selection will be done according to the compliance with the profile of participants outlined in this call, but also ensuring a balance between sexes, geographical regions, and different types of experiences, backgrounds and organisations.

The composition of the final participants' group will be announced on the 20 March 2014.

Further information

For further information about this activity, please contact Denis Durmis, denis.durmis@coe.int.