

**CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS:
Kick Off Seminar “Step up!”
of the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN)
in Donja Stubica, Croatia
11th–17th of February 2019**

The Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) is looking for participants for the Kick Off Seminar “Step up!”. The event will take place in Donja Stubica (close to Zagreb) and will be hosted by the Omladinska Mreža Srba u Hrvatskoj oMreža (Serbian minority in Croatia). It will be supported by the European Youth Foundation.

About the Seminar:

For some years now, the Kick-Off-Seminar is an integral part of our work plan and a great way to start with the new year, full of activities and fight for the minority rights!

Under the motto “MYnority – My Say” in 2019 we want to focus on youth participation as fundamental subject for young people, who want to engage themselves more. In the light of upcoming European Parliament Elections as well as many other national, regional and local elections around Europe, our main aim is to provide young people who belong to the minorities with knowledge on their rights, means of taking advantage of participation opportunities and tools for being active in diverse aspects of their communities.

With the Kick-Off Seminar we will take a closer look on what youth participation means and how it can help achieving the goal of more inclusive, youth and minority-oriented society.

We will talk about the gap between the legal rights of the national minorities and real access to them. The participants will be trained on how to channel their interests and demands to influence the decision-making processes.

Especially welcomed are Minority Messengers and those who are interested in joining the programme! During the Kick-Off-Seminar we will have a chance to exchange the experiences and talk about how to include the subject of youth participation during the MM visits!

This event is supported by:

Additional activities

- **Exchange market:** Please bring info material about your minority organization and promotion material, as this is the main goal of the exchange market. Please also bring specialties from your region/minority.
- **Excursion:** The aim of the excursion is to get to know the region, its history and learn more about the hosting minority, the Serbs in Croatia. The excursion will be organized by the hosting organisation and will be a great opportunity to learn more about the history, culture and the community of Serbs in Croatia.

Profile of the participants

- Young members of minorities involved in their minority youth organisation, aged 16-30;
- The ability to work in English (however, if you don't feel confident, we will find the way to communicate, just let us know!);
- We can accept one or two members per organisation depending on the number of applications. There will also be a waiting list and the free places will be given to those who are on the list after the deadline;
- Applicants who participated in the Minority Messenger project as well as "Newbies" will be given preference.

Travel reimbursement

Travel expenses 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!** More details will follow, when participants are selected.

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.

If you have to cancel your participation 2 weeks prior to the event and there will be no replacement, we will have to ask you for the participation fee.

Social fund

If you need support to pay either your travel costs or participation fee, contact the office to ask for more information and/or apply for financial support (office@yeni.org).

Accommodation

Accommodation is only covered during the duration of the seminar (check-in on 11th February in the afternoon, check-out 17th February in the morning). If you arrive before or stay longer you will have to cover it yourself!

We will reimburse your travel costs only if you stay **no longer than two days** before or after the seminar.

The seminar will take place at the Hotel Terme Jezerčica, in Donja Stubica: <http://terme-jezercica.hr/en/>

Participants will be accommodated in double rooms.

Application:

If you are interested to participate, please fill in the application form online on our homepage:

[APPLICATION FORM](#)

Deadline for the application is the **8th of January 2019**.

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.

All participants are required to take part in at least four full days of the seminar.

Make sure that you choose the cheapest and eco-friendly way of travelling to the venue.

Please book your tickets 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 question about the seminar, please contact us at the below mentioned email addresses.

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We are looking forward to meeting you!
oMreža and YEN orga-team

This event is supported by: