



YEN goes 2020

“Think diverse! Minority youth in a Changing World”

As we are approaching the end of the year, we are evaluating the past events, but at the same time already planning new activities in 2020. Keep yourselves updated - there are some exciting opportunities waiting for **YOU!**

Under the motto: „**Think diverse! Minority youth in a Changing World**“, we want to focus on the role and reality of young people from national, ethnic and linguistic minorities in a changing world, in the light of current developments, challenges and opportunities.

Striving for social inclusion, we also want to look beyond national, ethnic and linguistic minorities and invite other partners to participate and discuss the need for solidarity.

At this time when Europe faces populist, far-right, nationalist notions, it is even more important and relevant for the minority youth to step up, defy these ideas and show a positive way of how we, with strong minority identities, can stand up for a diverse, inclusive, open-minded and peaceful Europe.

For that reason, we need to make sure, that human rights are protected, and all social groups can access them. We want to build Europe based on solidarity of young people from various backgrounds.

Vielfalt leben!

Living diversity – **Overview Events**

(marked in bold are seminars organised by YEN and our Member Organisations)

Kick-Off Seminar “Think equally”, 10.-16 February 2020 Csolnok/Tscholnok, Hungary	2
Minority Changemaker Programme 28. March-28. June 2020 Jarplund, Germany	2
Easter Seminar “Think beyond borders” 03.-09. April 2020 Knivsberg Denmark	3
General Assembly 09. April 2020 Knivsberg Denmark	3
Shape Europe – Hackathons “Europe is what we make of it” May – August 2020 in 5 European cities simultaneously	3
FUEN-Congress, 28.-31. May 2020 Gorizia/Gorica, Italy	4
Diversity Festival, 19. June- 27. June 2020 Carinthia/Koroška, Austria	4
Europeada 2020, 20.-26. June 2020 Carinthia/ Koroška, Austria.....	4
Working-Group-Meeting 17.-20. September 2020 to be determined	5
Autumn Seminar “Think united!”, 05.-11. October 2020 Trieste/Trst, Italy	5
“Think! Spread! Write!”: Minority Messengers HUB all over Europe	6
Shape Europe – Youth simulation of the European Union “Europe is what we make of it” November 2020 Strasbourg, France	6



Kick-Off Seminar “Think equally”, 10.-16 February 2020 Csolnok/Tscholnok, Hungary

Organized by: YEN and GJU (German Minority Youth in Hungary)

Here we want to Kick-Off with our motto: „Think diverse! Minority youth in a Changing World” and take a closer look on **minority rights, human rights education and activism**.

“Minority rights are human rights”, has been a saying, which has been used for a long time in the network of YEN, aiming in drawing attention to minority rights and their violation or protection.

With the Kick Off Seminar, we want to explore that phrase and the relation and consequences of minority rights being human rights. The main aim of the seminar is to create an **understanding that human rights are universal** and belong to all human beings, including members of minority groups.

After the seminar, the participants will not only understand the concept of human rights, but also will be better equipped to identify today’s challenges on the way to protecting human rights or accessing them.

As a bridge, we will also have one particular session focused on gender identity and gender equality provisions (or lack thereof).

Kick Off Seminar is supported by **European Youth Foundation of Council of Europe**.

Minority Changemaker Programme 28. March-28. June 2020 Jarplund, Germany

Organized by: Grænseforeningen in cooperation with the University of Southern Denmark and Jarplund Højskole as well as support of YEN

During a three-month course in spring 2020 the participants will be living and learning together at Jarplund Højskole.

With its belonging to the Danish minority in Germany the school is cultural melting pot of Danish, German and European culture.

The course combines the Folk High School’s special Nordic concept for adult education with an academic curriculum which offers the students to obtain 15 ECTS-points for further studies.

Besides the academic curriculum, the course offers a broad variety of elective subjects, such as music experiences, art history, personal development and coaching, rhetoric and communication, leadership and activism, yoga and meditation...

The school is situated in a green area in the outskirts on Flensburg, Germany, in the Danish-German border region, where Danes, Germans, Frisians and Sinti and Roma have lived side by side for centuries.

“Change starts with knowledge and friendship. That is what we are building.”

Curious? Check out the website! <https://minoritychangemaker.eu/>



Easter Seminar “Think beyond borders” 3.-09. April 2020 Knivsberg | Denmark

Organized by: YEN and SdU (Danish Minority in Germany), junge SPitzen and DJN (German Minority in Denmark)

The Easter-Seminar is the biggest event in the YEN-year. It is going to take place in the Danish-German-border region in order to mark the 100-year anniversary of Schleswig plebiscites anniversary and settlement of the Danish-German border.

In addition to that the workshops are going to focus on the border region as a good practice of how states and minorities can cooperate and live friendly together.

As the Easter Seminar is the second YEN-seminar of the year the other part is going to build up on the Kick-Off Seminar and will refer to many of the human rights (violations and provisions) from the first seminar.

The aim is to create an understanding of what is **minorities’ stance in the light of rising populism and nationalism** and what role the individuals from minorities have in counteracting that.

With the growing wave of populism and nationalism throughout Europe, national, ethnic and language minorities are very often either increasingly threatened, or instrumentalized. That is why we want to take a clear stance against these developments and tackle these challenges.

During the Easter Seminar we want to equip our participants with tools and skills to deal with populism and nationalism. In order to become qualified multipliers who can initiate change in the local communities and take a stand against these phenomena.

With this seminar we also want to spark the understanding that nationalism and populism threaten, and attack not only national, ethnical and linguistic minorities represented in YEN, but all minority groups.

Easter Seminar is supported by [European Youth Foundation of Council of Europe](#).

General Assembly 09. April 2020 Knivsberg | Denmark

Organized by: YEN

General Assembly of the YEN serves as the **supreme organ of the organization**.

During the General Assembly the new board members will be elected, resolutions will be passed and both the direction of the organization and the current affairs will be discussed.

The annual general assembly is usually held following the Easter Seminar.

Shape Europe – Hackathons “Europe is what we make of it” May – August 2020 | in 5 European cities simultaneously

Organized by: JEF (Young European Federalists) in cooperation with YEN and other European youth organizations

Based on a belief in a strong and democratic European Union, the project “**Europe is what we make of it**” aims to bring the EU institutions closer to European citizens and support the localization of the European Youth Goals.

In order to achieve this the project is divided in three steps: the hackathons as a preparation, a simulation of the European Union and a conference with stakeholders, discussing the state of play of the European youth regarding our needs and demands.



The hackathons are going to be 24 hours intense challenges with the main aim to think of how the European Institutions should work in order to be more accountable to the citizens' vote.

All the 5 Hackathons will be linked online with streams from the 5 different cities and space for online consultations on different questions with young Europeans from all around the continent.

The work will feed into an European initiative working towards a change at the European level.

FUEN-Congress, 28.-31. May 2020 | Gorizia/Gorica, Italy

Organized by: JEF (Young European Federalists) in cooperation with YEN and other European youth organizations

The FUEN Congress is the biggest congress of minorities in Europe gathering the Member Originations of FUEN as well as decision-makers and partners active in the field of national minorities.

Curious? Checkout the website: <https://www.fuen.org/>

Diversity Festival, 19. June- 27. June 2020 | Carinthia/Koroška, Austria

Organized by: YEN and KSSŠD, KDZ as well as MLADA EL (Slovene Youth Organizations in Austria)

The Diversity Festival invites youth from different European minorities to spend a week together engaging in **different artistic, cultural or sportive activities** where they will be motivated to share their views, stories and life experiences.

The workshops to choose from are on theatre, singing, dance, photography, video, language and storytelling. Other activities are Open Spaces, where participants can bring themselves in and start a discussion or activity based on their individual interests, common sportive activities and personal reflection phases.

The Diversity Festival will take place at the same time as the Europeada, the football tournament of national minorities in Europe with 400 guests. The participants of the Diversity Festival will therefore have the opportunity to experience parts of this unique event but also have the possibility to bring their own views and ideas to it and make the voice of minority youth heard.

By preparing and performing a big show, that will be part of the Europeada cultural program we hope to reach out to a broad audience to create visibility for the issues of youth belonging to national minorities.

Europeada 2020, 20.-26. June 2020 | Carinthia/ Koroška, Austria

Organized by: Carinthian Slovenes in cooperation with FUEN

In 2020, the EUROPEADA – the **European football championship of the autochthonous national minorities**, will take place for the 4th time.

The EUROPEADA is a major European event that connects the fair competition and the enthusiasm for a sporting event with the interests of the autochthonous national minorities. The focus is on the encounter, the exchange of minorities and the public promotion.

The EUROPEADA brings a great opportunity for diverse minorities to meet - this is what makes this football EM a truly unique sporting event.



An integral part of the EUROPEADA is the cultural day, in which the individual minorities will present themselves.

Dikh he na Bister, 27.July – 03. August 2020 | Krakow, Polen

Organized by: ternYpe (International Roma Youth Network)

Dikh He Na Bister marks the 76th Anniversary of Roma Genocide Remembrance.

During one week young people take part in workshops and lectures facilitated by experts and activists in the field of the Roma Genocide, Holocaust, human rights education and youth activism.

This way, the bridge between the historic experience of the Roma Genocide and present concerns relating to far-right / neo-Nazi movements and tendencies in societies across Europe should be created.

The nature of the subject links participation to both human rights education and to the recognition of Roma identity.

Read more about last years event: <http://www.yeni.org/2019/09/25/impressions-from-krakow-dikh-he-na-bister/>

Working-Group-Meeting 17.-20. September 2020 | to be determined

Organized by: YEN

There are three working groups within YEN's structures – Politics and Minority Rights, Member Integration & Communication, which support the work of the board and organisation as such. In the Autumn 2020 they are going to meet up in person. In order to connect, do some teambuilding and get some work done!

Autumn Seminar "Think united!", 05.-11. October 2020 Trieste/Trst, Italy

Organized by: YEN and MOSP (Slovene Minority Youth from Italy)

The Autumn Seminar is the last seminar of 2020 and brings the subject of 2020 – "minority youth in a changing world" to another level.

With this seminar, we want to **build solidarity between minorities** and look beyond not only borders, but also beyond national minorities.

A relevant change of this seminar will be to invite not only young people from national, ethnic and linguistic minorities, but also from other social groups and/or minorities – LGBTQ+ youth organizations, refugees, religious minorities or young people with disabilities.

Only with **solidarity and mutual understanding**, we can strive for social inclusion and peaceful societies.

Autumn Seminar is supported by [European Youth Foundation of Council of Europe](#).



“Think! Spread! Write!”: Minority Messengers HUB all over Europe

Organized by YEN

The fourth activity of 2020 is organized in the form of a HUB - a working process with three laboratories leading to the creation of the report “**State of Play of Young People from Minorities in Europe**”, which we set ourselves as aim with the Minority Messengers since 2018.

The aim of this activity is to reflect on, document and express the situation and reality of young people from minorities in today’s changing societies, using the outcomes of the other activities 2020 as well as our work of the last years. as well as the outcomes of the seminars of 2020 can be included in the HUB.

Therefore, the laboratories will be spread over the year, so that the newly acquired skills and competencies from the seminars can be implemented immediately.

We want to make sure, that the results, ideas, demands but also interest of young people from minorities, do not stay in the workshop room or our network, but can be disseminated further.

The data is however only the starting point - the laboratories will lead the Steering Team in a process of reviewing the data in the light of current challenges and developments.

The Minority Messengers HUB is supported by [European Youth Foundation of Council of Europe](#).

Living diversity –

Shape Europe – Youth simulation of the European Union “Europe is what we make of it” November 2020 | Strasbourg, France

Organized by: JEF (Young European Federalists) in cooperation with YEN and other European youth organizations

The main event of the project “Europe is what we make of It” is the Youth Simulation which is an activity that will gather more than 150 people coming from different European countries.

The event will be a large-scale youth exchange where the participants will have the chance to participate in a **simulation of a model of the EU** developed through the previous activities of the project.

The simulation will be developed based on the inputs from young people after a series of webinars, online consultation, hackathons and trainings that will give participants the chance to reshape the institutions with a view to bringing them closer to the people.

By playing the roles of deputies, senators, lobbyists or journalists, participants will be given the opportunity to get involved in an EU decision-making process.

Through this first-hand experience, they will improve their understanding of the EU governance and will be able to discuss ways of bringing it closer to European citizens.

In the second part of the project, young people will enter the role of advocates for the implementation of the discussions and decisions from the simulation and advocate the implementation of the Youth Goals at the local/regional level.

All the outputs from the project will be presented on a final conference with other stakeholders.



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Vielfalt leben!
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