

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Mini-Seminar “Story of my life”
of the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN)
in Strasbourg, France
1st–5th of September 2021

The Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) is looking for participants for the Mini-Seminar “Story of my life”. The event will take place in Strasbourg and will be hosted by the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN). It will be supported by the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe.

Participants should **arrive on the 1st and depart on the 5th** of September.

About the Seminar:

YEN’s year 2021 will be under the slogan: “Changing the narrative”. Every day we are surrounded by stories and narratives that influence how we think about other people, about society and the world. Most of the time we only listen to those who are the loudest, the most powerful or have the best networks. Sadly, this often means that only one-sided, over-simplified or wrong stories are told about marginalised communities. This is exactly why it is important to understand and critically question how narratives and stories are written and distributed.

We want to take a closer look at the stories, that we tell about ourselves as individuals, that minorities tell about themselves and at the stories that society tells about us. We will learn and explore how we can write and tell our own stories.

This event is supported by:

The Seminar will focus on the concept of “narrative Identity” and the question how stories and narratives reflect our identity.

As a participant you will address three perspectives:

1. you will explore your own identity, and which important events and developments in your life impacted it;
2. you will examine which stories and narratives your minority is telling about itself - in songs, fairy tales, poetry, jokes or in politics;
3. you will reflect on how society (majority) talks about your minority.

Together with individual reflection you will get the possibility to improve your competences in dealing with media and in critical thinking.

If you are interested in the portrayal and self-representation of national minorities, then this seminar will offer you a chance to discuss with others and deepen your knowledge and insight into this topic.

The workshop will be in English. However, if you don't feel confident, we will find the way to communicate, just let us know!

Profile of the participants

- Young members of minorities involved in their minority youth organisation,
- 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;
- We can only accept participants that will be present for at least 80% of the workshop.
- Applicants who have already participated in YEN events as well as “Newbies” are welcome.

This event is supported by:

Travel reimbursement

Travel expenses will be reimbursed partly up to a previously set maximum amount. They will be reimbursed only when a signed „Expense Claim“ as well as all the original tickets are 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 50 € for Western European participants and 35 € 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 later than 2 weeks prior to the event and there will be no replacement, we will have to ask you for the participation fee. You do not have to pay the participation fee if you cancel in case of illness.

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 1st September in the afternoon, check-out 5th September in the morning). If you arrive before or stay longer you will have to cover it yourself!

This event is supported by:

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 European Youth Centre, Strasbourg.

European Youth Centre

30, rue Pierre de Coubertin

F - 67000 Strasbourg

FRANCE

Tel: + 33 3 88 41 23 00

Web: www.coe.int/en/web/youth/eyc-strasbourg

Participants will be accommodated in single-, or double-bed rooms.

Corona Safety Measures

While we are happy that it is possible to meet again, we have to acknowledge, that the pandemic is not over yet. We will do everything to ensure a safe environment to meet. However, we must follow the rules that are in place at the European Youth Centre as well as in France. Please read through them carefully so everyone can feel safe and that we can continue to make meetings like this.

- Please make sure that you have a negative **rapid-Test** on arrival. If you need a PCR-test for your travel or if it is not possible to get a rapid test for free wherever you live, we are happy to reimburse you for it. Please save your receipts and bring them with you.
- Check all the **travel requirements for entering and returning from France** so you will not run into any problems while travelling to and back from the event. If you need a negative test for your return journey message us and we will organise a Covid-Test for you before departure.
- During the event we will wear **surgical mask** or **FFP2 masks** during the workshop and

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when we are inside. We ask you to bring some masks with you. If you forget, do not worry we will bring some with us so just tell us on arrival if you do not have any with you or run out of them during the event. You will be asked to wear a mask even if you are vaccinated or have recovered from a corona infection.

- Closer to the event we will send you another **information sheet** where we summarise local hygienic regulations as they will probably differ to where you live and everybody should be informed. It is possible that these regulations differ from what is described here due to recent changes.
- Finally, we will actively control all our hygienic rules during the event to guarantee a safe meeting for everyone. **We kindly ask you to cooperate with us, as we only have everybody's wellbeing in mind.**

We are optimistic that we can finally meet again but of course we will keep an eye on the ongoing developments and it is possible we will have to cancel the event. We will keep you updated!

If Corona will not allow us to meet we will implement an online-activity.

Application:

If you are interested to participate, please contact your organisation and fill in the online application form:

[APPLICATION FORM](#)

!! NEW Deadline for the application is the 15th of August 2021

Please note that **you have to contact your organisation before you apply. Applications that were send without the knowledge of an organisations will not be considered.** After the deadline, applicants will be informed whether they are selected or placed on a waiting list.

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All participants are required to take part in at least two and a half 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.

YEN Büro:

events@yeni.org

Tel.: +49 176 31779414

www.yeni.org

Facebook: @yeni.org

We are looking forward to meeting you!

Your YEN orga-team

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