

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS



The Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) is looking for participants for the **Easter Seminar “time to think”**. The event will take place at **Knivsberg in Denmark** from **8th until the 14/15th of April** and will be hosted by the youth organisations of „Sydslesvigsk danske Ungdomsforeninger (SdU)“ and „Deutscher Jugendverband für Nordschleswig (DJN)“.

Afterwards, on the 14. April, the YEN General Assembly will take place (for the interested representatives of YEN member organisations).

Content

About the Seminar	2
Workshops	2
Participants profile	3
Arrival & Departure:	3
About YEN	4
What's DJN?	4
What are SdU?	4
Finances	5
YEN General Assembly	5
Corona Safety Measures	6
Application procedure	7
Contact	7

About the Seminar

The Easter Seminar is the biggest event of the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN), where youth from different minorities from all over Europe meet to discuss youth minority issues.

This Easter Seminar, the participants will meet in **Apenrade/Aabenraa, Denmark, in the youth education centre Knivsberg**. The seminar, which had to be delayed for two years will be marked on one hand by the 102nd anniversary of the demarcation of the border between Denmark and Germany and the peaceful cooperation between the two states and their minorities. On the other hand, it is also the first YEN seminar in 2022. Therefore, it will start the plan for this year which is named **“growing together”** and focuses on identity, rights of young minority members and capacity building.

In spirit of a good neighborhood, the Orga-Team is made up of the North and South Schleswigern and YEN representatives. From the Danish side of the border the german minority youth organizations “Deutscher Jugendverband für Nordschleswig (DJN)” are part of the Orga-Team. From the German side the Danish minority youth organisation „Sydslesvigsk danske Ungdomsforeninger (SdU)” is part of the team.

Accommodation will be provided for all participants on Knivsberg in 4-bed rooms during the Seminar.

As the pandemic is still ongoing, we ask all our participants to be vaccinated or recovered AND tested (you can find more information below).

Workshops

The following workshops will be offered:

Workshop 1 - “Grenzland 2.0” – in German:

The workshop “Grænmland 2.0 - TIME TO THINK...again” wants to look at the potential of our border region. Often our German-Danish border region is presented as a model region in terms of minority policy. Two years ago we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the present border. The anniversary of a border has meant joy for some and sadness for others. The development from a historical conflict area to a European model example of successful coexistence between national identities, minorities and majorities, was often and much applauded. But is the applause justified? In our workshop, we want to investigate this question.

In cooperation with the Deutsches Museum Nordschleswig, we want to look into the historical background with you. With a specially developed role-play about the border demarcation in 1921, we want to relive the past and return with these experiences with you to the present. Here we will look at what is going on in this “model region” today. What works, what does not work? What can YOU learn from this, what can YOU take with you for your everyday life in your minority and what should perhaps be done differently in the German-Danish borderland?

Workshop 2 “Identity and Minority rights” – in English:

This Workshop will mainly focus on identity and minority rights. During the seminar we want you to explore your identity and how being part of a minority is shaping it. But we want to explore a holistic picture of what factors influence identity and discuss topics such as gender, LGBTQIA+, age, disabilities, etc. and reflect what affects your identity. Based on these observations we want to encourage you, to discuss the opportunities and challenges of all the layers of your identity. Do members of your minority experience disadvantages based on gender or age in your community?

Lastly, we want to learn about minority, youth and human rights. Which laws are here to protect you and who should monitor them? Together we will reflect if those rights are being respected, protected and fulfilled. Further, we want you to think about how you could fight for those rights, to guarantee them for your community as well as other marginalised groups.

- ➔ *Please note that the Workshops will be offered in different languages. You will be asked to choose which workshop you would like to participate in during application.*
- ➔ *The workshops will be based on methods of non-formal education and you will spend most of the week in your workshop. Of course, there will be different spare time activities, an excursion and the traditional exchange market. You will receive more information after the application deadline.*

Participants profile

You are a young member of a minority between aged 16 and 30 and involved in your minority youth organization? Then sign up for the YEN Easter Seminar in Denmark!

Please notice that we can accept two to three participants from each member organization. However, there will be a waiting list to fill up open seats out of it after the registration deadline. So if you are interested in sending more participants, get in contact with the YEN-office (under events@yeni.org).

Arrival & Departure

Arrival Day: **8th of April**

Departure Day: **14th of April** (for those who do not participate in the YEN General Assembly)
15th of April for those participating in the YEN General Assembly.

The Easter Seminar takes place on the youth education centre [Knivsberg](#). More information on how to reach Knivsberg will be provided after the application process.

About YEN

As YEN we believe in human rights and fundamental freedoms for all humans. We cooperate with and support institutions that share those values. Our work is built on the ideas of respect, openness and tolerance for all minorities. We openly position ourselves against racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, antigypsyism, antisemitism and discrimination or forced assimilation of any kind of minority and, as a matter of principle, are against violence in whatsoever form. When we choose facilitators and topics for workshops we do so with those values in mind.

We are happy that at YEN events our participants and team have various opinions and views on the topics we address. We value discussions and open exchange of ideas. Therefore, we expect that participants and team-members show respect to everyone and do not spread hate. Furthermore, we expect all attendees to acknowledge that every human being is equally valuable and that each individual's freedom ends where another individual's freedom begins.

What's DJN?

DJN is the youth association for Northern Schleswig with 20 joined clubs in Nordschleswig and approx. 3.000 members. The youth association employs among other things coaches who are providing additional sports activities for the associated clubs.

Aside from that the DJN is providing the Bildungsstätte Knivsberg (educational institution Knivsberg). Since 1894, the Knivsberg is considered the meeting place of German Northern Schleswig. In 1931 the educational institution was built, at that time as a youth hostel.

The DJN offers for example the annual Knivsberg celebration (Knivsbergfest), a ski trip and the management of the Bildungsstätte Knivsberg, which itself offers creative, cultural and sports activities for children, youth and adults. Those activities range from theater over sport and dance to art projects. Sports activities include e.g. handball, gymnastics, fistball and wheel gymnastics.

What are SdU?

Sydsløvigs danske Ungdomsforeninger are the umbrella organisation for the Danish sport- and youth clubs with a total of about 11.000 members and 57 clubs. SdU has one main goal: to support the Danish children- and youth work in Southern Schleswig. Sports, cultural and educational offers are creating experiences rich in content for our members. Considering this, there is a huge variety of activities organized by clubs, in regional organizations or in cooperation with other organizations. SdU itself offers club-overlapping activities like sporting tournaments, cultural events, camps for youth and more. Besides that SdU runs 11 children- and youth houses according to the Danish model. First- to fourth graders are taken care of after school and in the afternoon the houses function as recreational facilities.

Finances

Travel expenses

Travel expenses can be reimbursed up to a maximum amount. This involves a signed "expense claim". Only if original tickets will be presented and sent to the YEN office and participants provide all needed justificatory documents of travel and expenses (invoices, boarding passes, train or bus tickets...) the reimbursement will be considered. Please notice, taxi costs cannot be reimbursed! We will reimburse your travel costs only if you stay no longer than two days before or after the seminar.

Selected participants will be provided further details.

Participation fees

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.

Accommodation is only covered during the duration of the seminar. If you arrive before or stay longer, you will have to cover and book it yourself.

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 get in contact with the YEN-Office (office@yeni.org).

YEN General Assembly

The general assembly takes place on 14th of April. The participants that are neither member nor partner of YEN are welcomed to depart at the 14th. Everyone else is invited to participate in the GA and depart at the 15th April.

During the General Assembly, the representatives of the YEN member organizations decide on the future YEN seminars and other events. They also decide on YENs finances and resolutions. Additionally new board members as well as members of the three YEN working groups will be elected. We are looking forward to all who are interested in getting involved with YEN and want to join the board or the working groups.

For more Information, please contact the YEN-President Andor Barabás (andor.barabas@yeni.org)

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. Please read through them carefully so everyone can feel safe and that we can continue to make meetings like this.

- Attending the seminar is only possible, if proof of vaccination or recovery AND a negative test result can be presented at the beginning of the seminar.
- If you need a PCR or rapid-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 Denmark** 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 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 the up to date 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 procedure

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.

Participants will be informed after the registration deadline whether they have been selected or placed on the waiting list.

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

The closing date for registration is 20th of March 2022.

[Registration!](#)

Try to travel as cheaply and eco-friendly as possible. Please book your trip directly **after** you receive an official confirmation from the YEN-office!

Additional information's will be sent to you after your participation has been officially confirmed by the office.

Contact

The YEN-office is available for any questions.

YEN Office:

events@yeni.org

Tel.: +49 176 31779414

www.yeni.org

Facebook: @yeni.org

We are looking forward to your participation!

The Orga-Team from SDU, DJN and YEN