

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

The Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) and Klub slovenskih študentk in študentov (KSŠŠD) is looking for participants for the **Diversity Festival "UTOPIJA"**.

The event will take place in Koroška / Carinthia from the **25th of June until the 3rd of July 2022** and will be hosted by the Carinthian Slovene youth KSŠŠD.

About the Seminar

The diversity festival is a meeting where youth from different minorities in Europe meets and has a bigger focus on creative approaches to minority activism.

The festival will be held in Dobrla vas/Eberndorf in Koroška/Carinthia from the 25th of June to the 3rd of July. Under the theme "utopia" we want to encourage participants to critically reflect on the status of themselves and their minorities and create their utopia. With creative workshops, we want to discover the different possibilities of how such a utopia can look like and learn how we can show our utopia to the world.

The Carinthian Slovene minority is settled in the very south of Austria close to the Slovene border. You will be able to learn about the local minority during the seminar. But if you are already interested – our friends at FUEN from AGSM created a short film that very well explains some of the background of this minority. [Here you can find the Youtube-Link.](#)

The seminar will take place simultaneously with the Europeada. This is an event organised by FUEN and is a football tournament where minorities from all over Europe compete against each other. We plan to visit some of their program and games. [More information here.](#)

We will be accommodated at Campus AdFontes in 4 to 6-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

Most of the time during the seminar you will spend in your workshops. On the first day, you will have the opportunity to learn about the different options and you will have to decide which workshop you want to visit during the rest of the week. Of course, there will be plenty of time to get to know everybody, so you do not have to worry about only hanging out with the people from your workshop.

All Workshops will be held in English, but if you are not sure if your English is well enough, feel free to reach out to us and we will try to find a solution!

Workshop 1 - "Minority-Dance-Party!":

In the rhythm workshop you will learn how to express yourself through movement, dance and beat. Through the creativity of the group, a performance will be designed based on the theme of utopias and the desires of the group.

Workshop 2 - "Filmmaking":

This workshop will deal with film and video, especially in form of documentary and essay films. Together with our workshop facilitator, we want to find out how films are made in practice, how filming, sound recording and editing is done. During the seminar we want you to show your own view with cinematic means or to approach your environment with an open-ended question. In addition to the technical aspects, the aim is to create a clear concept and to playfully deal with image and sound.

Workshop 3 - "Choir":

What is almost as Carinthian Slovene as (puppet) theatre? - Choral singing!

In the choir workshop, we want to learn about different minorities and languages through singing. All participants are invited to send songs of their minority group before the start of the seminar, which we will learn together in the course of the week.

Workshop 4 - "Puppet-Theatre":

What's as Carinthian Slovene as choral singing? - Puppets!

In our Puppet-Theatre workshop you will learn all facets of puppet theatre - from construction of puppets to animation on stage. We also want to show you different types of puppet theatre, be it the classic Austrian 'Kasperltheater' with hand puppets, shadow theatre or object theatre, where you bring different everyday objects to life

Participants profile

You are a young member of a minority aged between 16 and 30 and involved in your minority youth organization? Then sign up for the Diversity Festival in Carinthia / Koroška!

Please note that we can accept two to three participants from each member organisation. However, there will be a waiting list to fill up open seats 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: 25th of June

The official opening of the Europeada will be on the evening of the arrival date. If you want to visit it you should try to arrive at latest 16:00h.

Departure Day: 3rd of July

The Diversity Festival takes place at [Campus AdFontes](#) , Dobrla vas/ Eberndorf. More information on how to reach it 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.

About KSŠŠD?

Besides the most difficult to pronounce member organisation, KSŠŠD is the youth organisation of Slovene speaking students in Vienna. The organisation was founded already in 1923 and was with exception of the 2nd world war continuously active. Most Carinthian Slovenes know what "the klub" in Vienna is and most of the volunteers are part of the minority. In their space in the middle of Vienna, they organise weekly events such as readings, film nights, lectures or parties. Over the past years, they have annually organised lecture series such as the "antifascist winter/ antifašistična zima" or the "feminist spring/ feministična pomlad".

They also have their choir and a free Slovene course that is open for anybody. Recently, they started their own puppet-theatre group, where they prepare one new show every year. One of the biggest events of the year is the "Mondscheingasse Party", where they close the street in front of its clubhouse and organise a diverse cultural program throughout the afternoon and around 500 people visit each year.

A focus of their work is antifascism and they work with a lot of different like-minded groups and support other minority or marginalised groups in Vienna.



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).



Corona Safety Measures

While we are happy that it is possible to meet again, we must 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.** We ask you to make a test before you start your travels. Also a self-test is accepted.
- If it is not possible to get a corona 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 Austria** 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.
- As of now, we hope that we will not have to wear masks during the event. We do however have the right, that in case of rising numbers of infections or a positive case on our seminar we will enact a rule to wear masks inside.
- 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. These regulations may 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 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!



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 six full days of the seminar.

The closing date for registration is 25th of May 2022.

[Link for 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:

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We are looking forward to your participation!

The Orga-Team from KSŠŠD and YEN

